

FOR  
NEW YEAR  
VICTROLA  
and  
VICTOR RECORDS  
S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.  
Chater Road.

# China Mail

THE AUSTIN SEVEN  
  
Catalogues & specifications from  
ALEX. ROSS & CO. (CHINA) LTD.

Temperature 57 Barometer 30.12  
Rainfall 0.00 in. Humidity 65  
ESTABLISHED 1840  
To-day's closing rate 2/4 3/6  
To-day's opening rate 2/4 3/16

No. 19,378 五拜禮 號六廿月二十年四十二百九千一英 HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1924. 日一初月二十子年大國中三十國民華中 PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.

**HALF PRICE  
SALE  
FOR  
3 DAYS ONLY**  
Dec. 29, 30 & 31  
AT  
**WHITEAWAY'S**  
We have decided to clear a lot of Toys, Games, Dressing Cases, Manicure Cases, Fancy Goods and odds from all departments.  
AT  
**HALF PRICE  
FOR  
3 DAYS ONLY**  
**HUNDREDS  
OF  
BARGAINS**  
**WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW  
& CO., LTD.  
HONGKONG.**

**GRAND  
WINTER SALE!!!  
30% REDUCTION  
ON**  
Linen drawn work, laces, silk embroideries, Spanish shawls, ivory, brass and cloisonne wares, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, pendants, handbags, fans and pewter ware.  
**20% REDUCTION  
ON**  
**BLACKWOOD FURNITURE.**  
A visit to our store will convince you that you really do save money by taking advantage of our  
**WINTER SALE**  
**SWATOW  
DRAWN  
WORK  
EMPORIUM**  
No. 34, Queen's Road, C.  
(Corner of Flower St.)  
HONGKONG.  
Tel. C. 4806

**BEAUTY CONTEST  
FOR  
PARTICULARS  
APPLY  
THE HONGKONG STUDIO  
ART PHOTOGRAPHERS  
64, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.**  
**MRS. MOTONO  
ELECTRIC MASSAGE  
31a, Wyndham St., Road Place.**

**HURLED TO DEATH.  
TERRIBLE AEROPLANE DISASTER.  
EIGHT LIVES LOST.  
Christmas Eve Tragedy At Home.**  
A terrible aeroplane disaster, costing eight lives, occurred at Home just before Christmas.  
(Reuter's Service.)  
London, December 24.  
Nine persons were killed when the air express from London to Paris crashed in the Croydon aero-

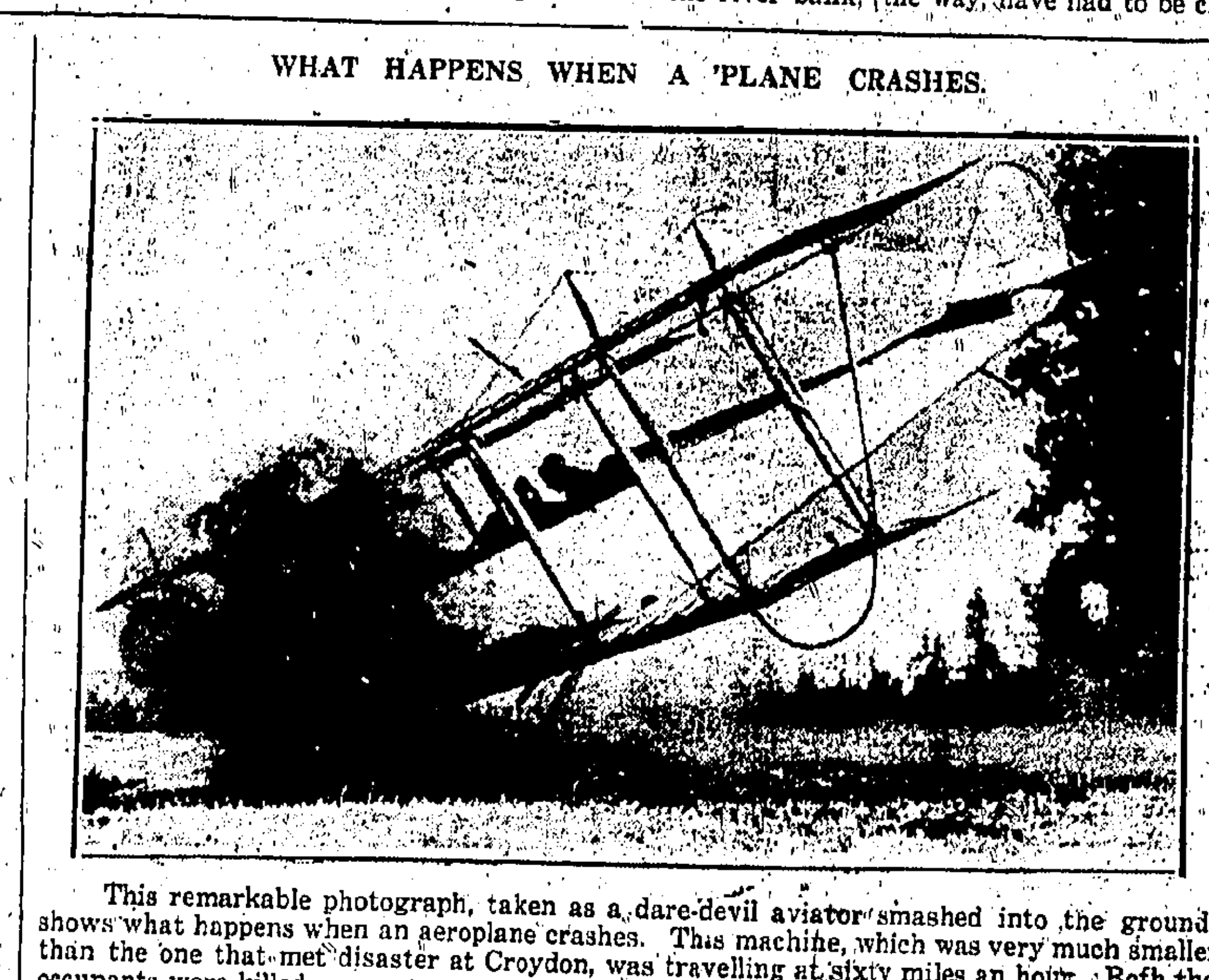
**BRITAIN'S AIR MINISTER.**  
  
Who will doubtless order an inquiry into Wednesday's fatal aeroplane crash.

drome this morning and burst into flames. The victims were the pilot and eight passengers.  
Later.  
Eight lives lost.  
Eight persons not nine were killed—five men and three women.  
The aeroplane had just started for Paris at noon when it crashed about half-a-mile from the starting point. It dived nose downwards, the front engine burying itself in the ground. The petrol tank then burst into flames; the petrol caught fire and the flames quickly spread to the body and wings.  
A crowd rushed to the spot to help, but the heat was so intense people were unable to approach the plane which was reduced to ashes within ten minutes.  
The machine was a De Havilland 450 horse-power and belonged to the Imperial Airways, Ltd., a combination of British firms formed early in the year to work air transport services with the Continent.  
Passengers' Terrible End.  
When the fire occurred, all the passengers were probably unconscious, if not dead, as the tail of the plane tilted up so high that they were all thrown in a heap so forcibly that the bodies bore marks of injuries otherwise unaccountable.

**IMPERIAL AIRWAY.  
New Company's Big Scheme.**  
The Imperial Airways, Ltd., which at present is operating from Croydon, will open a regular route to Southern Europe in the Spring of 1925. Already the company is negotiating with the Government to obtain control of the Cairo-Bagdad aeroplane mail and

**COLOGNE EVACUATION.  
M. HERRIOT CONSIDERS  
IT IMPOSSIBLE.  
CABINET SUPPORTS HIM.**  
(Reuter's Service.)  
Paris, December 24.  
The Cabinet has approved a memorandum from M. Herriot, expressing the opinion that it is impossible to evacuate the Cologne zone.  
CIST OF MEMORANDUM.  
M. Herriot's memorandum declares that information from Germany is sufficient already to demonstrate that in conformity with the Treaty of Versailles it is impossible to evacuate the Cologne zone by January 10. The memorandum states "inter-alled negotiations are continuing in the greatest agreement."

**A PIRATE PLOT?  
River Steamers' Danger.  
FIREARMS THE LURE.  
SOME STARTLING KONGMOON RUMOURS.**  
(From Our Own Correspondent.)  
Pakkai, Kongmoon, Dec. 24.  
That pirate hordes are after the firearms carried aboard ships of the convoys and will stop at nothing to get them, is the gist of a sensational rumour current here just now.  
As is well known, the number of river steamers leaving Kongmoon for Hongkong every night and vice versa is almost equal to the number engaged in the Hongkong-Canton trade. On alternate nights the s.s. "Tai Lee" and "On Lee" leave each port and they act as "mother-ships" to either the up or down convoy as the case may be.  
Startling though it may sound, the plot is alleged to be one of attempting openly to attack the convoys and "surround" the "Tai Lee" and "On Lee"—whatever "surround" may mean.  
Both Well-Armed.  
In connection with the above, it should be noted that the "Tai Lee" figures prominently in the annals of local piracy. This vessel was once attacked and successfully robbed when Captain Wilcox, his life and two Indian guards were shot down. During a later trip she was subjected to a converging fire from the river bank,



This remarkable photograph, taken as a dare-devil aviator smashed into the ground, shows what happens when an aeroplane crashes. This machine, which was very much smaller than the one that met disaster at Croydon, was travelling at sixty miles an hour. Both the occupants were killed.


**"HOLY YEAR."  
POPE OPENS DOOR OF ST. PETERS.**  
Brilliant Ceremony.  
(Reuter's Service.)  
Rome, December 24.  
"Holy Year," which is celebrated every quarter of a century and is expected to bring millions of pilgrims to Rome in 1925, was inaugurated to-day by the Pope opening the Holy Door of St. Peter's. It was a most impressive and brilliant ceremony.  
The Pope, attended by his religious and secular court, walked in procession to St. Peter's and, amid solemn silence, thrice struck the door with a gold hammer saying in Latin, "aperite mihi portas justitiae"—open to me the doors of justice.  
Whereupon the workmen slowly lowered the door, which had already been put away from the wall, and rolled it from the entrance sides. The threshold was then washed with holy water before the Pope passed through.  
Bella Pearl Forth.  
The bells of St. Peter's and of 400 other Churches in Rome then pealed forth, announcing that Holy Year had begun.  
After the ceremony the doors of St. Peter's were thrown open to crowds of the faithful, who passed through the newly opened door, symbolising the eternal doors of the City of God, each kissing the door-post as he passed.

**OUR XMAS DAY.  
HOW IT WAS SPENT.  
YESTERDAY'S DOINGS.  
Special Services In The Churches.**  
Hongkong celebrated Christmas Day quietly but enjoyably, the unfriendly weather of the morning soon giving way to better conditions.  
Sounds of music, lightly tripping feet, or of more uproarious diversions, trickling last night through floors, ceilings, doors and windows—these to him who chanced upon the streets last night or endeavoured to "turn in" early in anticipation of jollifications to come were the indications of how once again in Hongkong was vindicated the age long glory of December 25.  
Few indeed must have been the European houses with interiors not gay with evergreen and bunting and in the hall of which did not figure the suggestive bunch of mistletoe, for however many carnivals and dances may be attended in the course of the festive season, Xmas Day never loses its significance as a family day with, wherever possible, family reunions.  
To-night will be the occasion for even greater jollity for whereas attendance at Xmas parties may sometimes be largely due to a sense of duty, one may choose one's own company at such dances as will be held at the Hongkong Hotel Grill room to-night—bookings for which, by the way, have had to be closed, as

**UNION CHURCH.**  
That the fun and merriment of Xmas might rise to great height and yet not reach the level of that expressed in his text was the suggestion of the Rev. J. Horace Johnston in the course of his Xmas address at the Union Church, Kennedy Road yesterday morning.  
The text was "When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy," the speaker enlarging on the three elements of the joy of the holy men. They were conscious, he said, of a Divine providence which had guided them; that providence was still the same and our joy to-day might be increased as that of the shepherds was if we but availed ourselves of it. The heavens were friendly towards us too.  
The second element in their joy had been that they had been led to the cradle of a young child. Our joy, too, might be increased by gathering round us at this time those of whom Dr. Pulsford had so aptly referred to as "world types of heavenly influence."  
"O tender gems and full of heaven,  
Not in the twilight stars on high,  
Not in the moist flowers of even,  
See we our God so nigh."  
The address closed, with an appeal for surrender to Him who was worthy of the best we could give him. Our joy would then be as that of the holy men who found an object wholly worthy of their adoration and homage.



POPE OPENS FAMOUS HOLY DOOR.

**Dancing  
Shoes**  
  
Made of selected Patent Leather, light flexible soles and perfect fitting in a neat comfortable shape that will not fail to give complete satisfaction in every way.  
ALL SIZES AND FITTINGS  
IN STOCK  
\$14.50 per pair.  
**"LUXITE" BLACK SILK SOCKS**  
Extra heavy quality \$2.50.  
**MACKINTOSH  
& CO., LTD.**  
Men's Wear Specialists.  
Alexandra Building  
Des Voeux Road.

**REMOVAL  
NOTICE**  
We beg to announce that we have removed to our new premises situated in the Asiatic Bldg. Queen's Road. Central and will continue our former business as from the 15th of December.

**MORINAGA'S**  
**FOOK SUN FOR SALE**  
PANAMA HATS, FUR HATS, STRAW HATS and all kinds of hats. Also, a large stock of shoes, boots, and gloves. Address: 111, Queen's Road, Central.











## HONGKONG CANTON AND MACAO STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON, &amp; MACAO STEAM CO. LTD. AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO. LTD.

## HONGKONG-CANTON LINE

Callings:—To Canton daily at 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. (Sundays 10 p.m. only).  
From Canton daily at 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. (Sundays 8 p.m. only).

## SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON, &amp; MACAO STEAM CO. LTD.

## HONGKONG-MACAO LINE

Callings:—To Macao daily at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays 8 a.m. only).  
From Macao daily at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays 8 p.m. only).

## HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

S.S. "BOI AN" leaves Hongkong at 9 a.m. and returns from Macao at 4 p.m.  
Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, 41, Des Voeux Road Central, Messrs. The Overseas Express Company, Hongkong.

## DODWELL &amp; COMPANY, LTD.

## NEW YORK BERTH

FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON VIA SUEZ

S.S. "BOLTON CASTLE" ... Sails about 4th January

## LLOYD TRIESTINO

REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE  
FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE (VIENNA).  
TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO  
GENOA, ALL ITALIAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANT, BLACK SEA  
AND DANUBE PORTS.REDUCED PASSAGE RATES TO BRINDISI, VENICE  
OR TRIESTE.

£66.

## NEXT SAILINGS.

OUTWARD FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE &amp; MOJI.

S.S. "VENEZIA" ... Sails about 1st Jan. 1925  
S.S. "NUMIDIA" ... Sails about 14th Jan.  
S.S. "LAONIA" ... Sails about 22nd Jan.  
S.S. "FIUME-L" ... Sails about 1st Feb.

## HOMEWARD FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE

S.S. "ROSANDRA" ... Sails about 7th Jan.  
S.S. "NUMIDIA" ... Sails about 22nd Feb.  
S.S. "VENEZIA" ... Sails about 7th Feb.  
S.S. "LAONIA" ... Sails about 26th Feb.  
S.S. "FIUME-L" ... Sails about 7th Mar.

## NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

FROM CALCUTTA & COLOMBO TO  
SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.S.S. "ONTARIO" ... Sails about 31st December  
Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports.  
Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to—  
Telephone Central 1030. DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

## O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ADVERTISEMENT

ORDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.  
ATLAS MARU ... Monday, 28th Jan.  
AMAZON MARU ... Tuesday, 29th Jan.  
RIO DE JANEIRO MARU ... Wednesday, 30th Jan.  
CANADA MARU ... Thursday, 31st Jan.  
SWEET MARU ... Friday, 1st Feb.  
MISAKI MARU ... Saturday, 2nd Feb.  
SHUNKO MARU (Calls at Penang) ... Sunday, 3rd Feb.  
LALON—Shanghai and Hongkong ... Monday, 4th Feb.  
BUSHO MARU ... Tuesday, 5th Feb.  
CALCUTTA—Shanghai and Hongkong ... Wednesday, 6th Feb.  
HAGUE MARU ... Thursday, 7th Feb.  
VICTORIA—Shanghai and Hongkong ... Friday, 8th Feb.  
HAWAII MARU (From Shanghai and Japan Ports) ... Saturday, 9th Feb.  
JAPAN PORTS ... Sunday, 10th Feb.

HAGUE MARU ... Friday, 28th Dec.  
ARGON MARU ... Friday, 13rd Jan.  
KANO MARU ... Sunday, 28th Dec. at 11 a.m.  
AMAKUSA MARU ... Sunday, 4th Jan. at 11 a.m.  
KAIYO MARU ... Friday, 2nd Jan. at 8 a.m.  
KISHU MARU ... Friday, 16th Jan.

For further particulars please apply to—  
OSAKA SHOSUN KAISHA,  
M. TAKEUCHI, Manager.

For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to—  
Telephone Central 4088, 4089, & 90.

## BOSTON, NEW YORK &amp; BALTIMORE

JOINT SERVICE OF THE

## "BLUE FUNNEL" LINE

(OCEAN S.S. CO. LTD. &amp; CHINA MUTUAL S.S. CO. LTD.)

## AMERICAN &amp; MANCHURIAN LINE

(RUEBMAN &amp; BUCKNALL S.S. CO. LTD.)

## SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

S.S. "HYSON" ... 28th Dec. 1924  
S.S. "TICON" ... 8th Jan. 1925  
S.S. "COLORADO" ... 19th Jan. 1925  
S.S. "ATREUS" ... 29th Jan. 1925  
S.S. "CITY OF BEDFORD" ... 1st Feb. 1925

For Freight and particulars apply to—  
OVERSEA-PAK & SWIRE, or THE BANK LINE, LTD., HONGKONG  
(HONGKONG & CANTON) HOLYOAK MASSEY & CO. LTD., CANTON.

## THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON  
FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have  
over thirty years' experience. We own two slipways and can accommodate any  
size of ship.

Town Office: 84, Cross Street, Central, Hongkong. Tel. Central No. 459.  
Branch Office: 10, Cross Street, Central, Hongkong. Tel. Central No. 9.  
Reference furnished on application.

Hongkong, 1, April 1924.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS  
AND PASSENGERS.

## VESSELS' DUE.

## FROM SWATOW

Jan. 5—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM BANGKOK

Dec. 28—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SHANGHAI

Dec. 31—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SINGAPORE

Dec. 27—P. & O. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM JAPAN

Jan. 5—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM ILOILO

Jan. 10—U.S.S. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM BOMBAY

Jan. 1—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM CALCUTTA

Dec. 29—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM JAV

Dec. 28—J.C.L. ...  
Apr. 6—J.C.L. ...

## FROM MANILA

Dec. 27—A.O.L. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE

Jan. 9—P. & O. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SEATTLE, VANCOUVER, ETC.

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SAN FRANCISCO &amp; LOS ANGELES

Dec. 21—U.S.S. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM NEW YORK

Dec. 21—P. & O. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM SAN FRANCISCO

Jan. 5—D.S.L. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM EUROPEAN PORTS

Dec. 28—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM MARSEILLES

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM LONDON

Dec. 27—P. & O. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM COPENHAGEN

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM AMSTERDAM

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM ROTTERDAM

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM ANTWERP

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM BRUSSELS

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
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## FROM PARIS

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
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## FROM LYONS

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
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## FROM MANTUA

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
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## FROM VERONA

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM MILAN

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM GENOVA

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
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## FROM NAPLES

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## FROM ROME

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Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## FROM ROME

Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...  
Jan. 12—N.Y.K. ...

## MOVEMENT OF STEAMERS.

The O.P.R. R.M.S. "Empress of Canada" will sail for Montreal at 10 p.m. today.

The P. &amp; O. s.s. "Kaituma" left Hongkong for the port of D.C. at 11 a.m. with the outward cargo.

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## To Connoisseurs— FINEST OLD BROWN BRANDY

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Exquisitely Mellow, and of Fine Aroma.  
Delightful to the Palate.

(Blends Deliciously with Watson's Dry Ginger Ale).

Bottled at Cognac, France,  
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**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.**  
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
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## 1925 ISSUE

OF THE

## DOLLAR DIRECTORY

It is requested that these par-  
ticulars be sent in as early as  
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## FREE OF CHARGE.

To be left out of the DOLLAR  
DIRECTORY is like being left out  
of everything that is worth while.

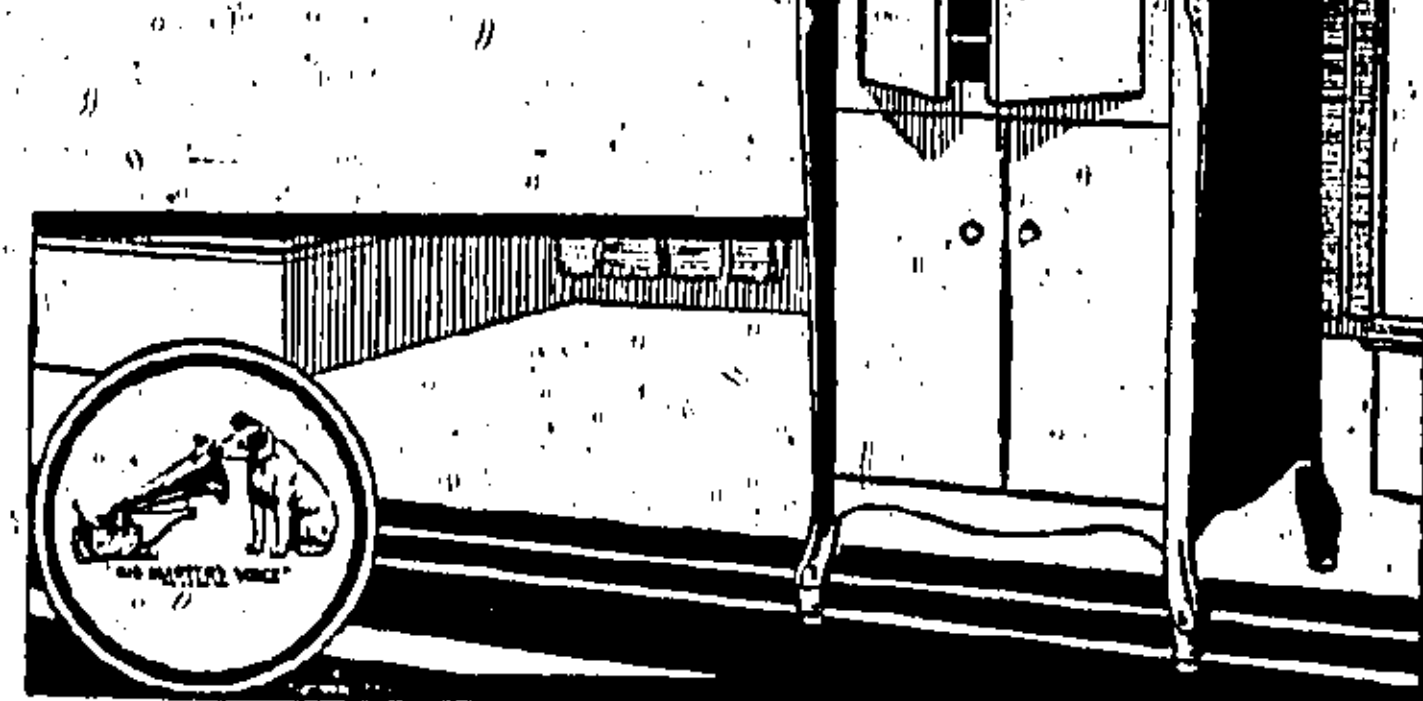
## DO IT NOW.

## Gift Victrolas Delivered on Christmas Eve!

**TING-A-LING-A-LING!**  
The bell rings just as the  
family is opening the Christmas  
presents. The door is opened,  
and up looms a large mysterious  
object. A minute and it is in-  
side. What a surprise! It is  
that Christmas Victrola with a  
big package of records, ordered  
from us! There is no other  
Christmas thrill that can take  
their place.

Select early. Demand is heavy.  
Stocks are still comprehensive, but  
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(Every evening except Sunday.  
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Hongkong, Friday, Dec. 26, 1924.

### TO-DAY.

Among those who amend the  
popular saying "Christmas comes  
but once a year" by adding a  
fervent "Thank goodness!" not  
the least emphatic is the unhappy  
leader writer. Consider his plight  
to-day. If the public is hard to  
please on ordinary, hum-drum  
days, how much harder is it to  
please on Boxing Day. Many are  
sure to be suffering from that  
"morning after" feeling, perhaps  
and those who are still fresh  
despite the previous day's revels  
are much too busy making holiday  
free to care about leading articles.  
Thus the leader writer's usual  
trials are doubly great on Boxing  
Day—he is least fitted to hold his  
readers' attention when it is  
hardest to attract. Heigh ho!

But since these doleful thoughts  
are scarcely likely to endure us to  
the few readers who will have  
borne with us thus far, let us  
explore the only subject that  
has any topical interest at  
all. Why is Boxing Day called  
Boxing Day? According to the  
worthy Dr. Brewer, in the early  
days of Christianity boxes were  
placed in churches for pro-  
miscuous charities and opened on  
Christmas Day. The contents  
were distributed next day by the

priests and called the "dole of the  
Christmas box," or the "box  
money." Also it was customary  
for the heads of houses to give  
small sums of money "to put into  
the box" before mass on Christ-  
mas Day. Somewhat later  
apprentices carried a box round  
to their master's customers for  
small gratuities, but since 1836  
the custom has been gradually  
dying out.

Hence we have "Boxing Day."  
Hence we can stay late abed to-day  
and generally make holiday free.  
Hence, too, nobody is the least bit  
interested in leading articles or  
the things they usually comment  
upon. Perhaps this is just as well  
after all. Who, as we asked once  
before on a similar occasion—who  
wants, on Boxing Day, to exercise  
his mind about burning local ques-  
tions or world problems? Who  
wants, indeed, the smallest  
reminder that these troubles are  
lurking just below the horizon  
waiting to return the moment the  
holidays are over? Back, then, to  
your revels! On with the dance!  
To-day at least we can close our  
ears to the rattle of every day  
troubles over the stony street of  
life. So, for to-day, anyway,  
WOOSTAH!

### A Cheap Chinese Sneer.

The Chinese have recently been  
overhauling the whole question of  
education, and the share foreign-  
ers are already taking in it. The  
idea of at least a portion of the  
British share of the Boxer  
Indemnity being earmarked for  
aiding educational establishments  
in China doubtless has influenced,  
to a certain extent, some of the  
educationalists in their actions.  
The British idea was that through  
educating young China, the two  
countries would be brought closer  
into harmony. The National  
Educational Association does not  
approve of foreigners having much  
to do with Chinese education,  
beyond supplying the sinews of  
war. Foreign influence, it is  
alleged, results in four great evils.  
The schools which they operate do  
not observe the Government's  
instructions, and they trench on  
the Government's exclusive right  
to educate; they make impossible  
the attainment of the Chinese  
educational ideal; they buy the  
affections of the young folks  
making them in reality colonists  
of their countries. They say:  
"No plan could be more cunningly  
laid for the destruction of the

peculiar national spirit of the  
Chinese, and the impairment of  
the students' minds which should  
be first, and all the time, for their  
own country. The object which  
foreigners have in view, in taking  
up with Chinese education, is  
either the propagation of religion  
or the inculcating of their own  
political ideas. In the education  
they are not in the least interested,  
and thus hold in contempt the real  
needs of the students." Consider-  
ing the immense benefits the  
Chinese have derived from the  
teachings of the foreigner and the  
ministration of missionary doctors  
—not to mention religious societies  
like the Y.M.C.A.—the sneer is  
indeed a cheap one.

### Saving The Language.

In recent years there has been  
a distinct tendency among writers  
to use words in their wrong sense.  
At one time the Americans were  
blamed—quite unjustly it has  
since been acknowledged—for  
"prostituting the English language."  
In a Lecture on "Errors in the  
use of Words," issued by the  
Oxford Correspondence College, it  
is made plain that writers of En-  
glish the world over are to blame  
for the misuse of words. If we  
turn over the pages of an old  
Grammar, we shall find relics of  
many a long forgotten battle  
fought over the use of a word.  
For example: "to replace" prop-  
erly means to put the same thing  
back in its place. By a curious  
process it has come to have the  
very different meaning of "to  
substitute one thing for another,"  
and also "to supersede." Changes  
in language are indeed the out-  
come of natural laws; but words  
are not what they are because  
they must of necessity be so, and  
if a new phrase, or a novel use  
of an old word, or some modifica-  
tion of expression supplies a need,  
has force and clearness, and does  
not violate good sense and good  
taste, it will fight its way into use  
and into literature despite all  
efforts to shut it out. As examples  
of words commonly misused the  
most glaring example we are told  
is "intriguing" in the sense of  
"amusing." It is not English and  
is inadmissible, says our Lecturer,  
expressing a sentiment which  
most people will endorse.

### DROPPING A DAY.

CHINESE CALENDAR  
OMISSION.

HOW MISTAKE AROSE.

Reference to Anglo-Chinese  
calendars printed locally and  
known as "date-blocks" for 1925  
will give the date for China New  
Year as Saturday, January 24.  
On closer examination it will be  
seen that one of the days of the  
last "moon" of the Chinese year  
is missing.

December 31, 1924, is the 6th  
day of the 12th moon. January  
1, 1925, is the 7th day of the 12th  
moon. The 6th day of the 12th  
moon has disappeared in the  
interval.

This omission is intentional.  
It is designed to make up an  
error in the Almanac (or calendar),  
published by the Imperial  
Board of Astronomy at Peking,  
an institution now absorbed  
under the Republican form of  
government.

Officially, the Chinese Republic  
has forsaken its own lunar calen-  
dar and has adopted the  
Gregorian. However, with the  
public, particularly the business  
section, the old calendar stands.  
Accordingly, printers have still to  
make use of the Almanac, which  
since its inception two or three  
hundred years ago, has been a  
government monopoly publica-  
tion. Evidently, the compilers  
were at fault. They gave 30 days  
(a big month) to the last "moon"  
of the current Chinese year  
when, on checking over, it should  
have had only 29 (a small  
month).

To get out of the difficulty,  
local printers of Anglo-Chinese  
calendars have omitted a day  
where it suited them best. As  
their publications are for each  
year according to the Gregorian  
calendar, they have left out a day  
to start 1925 correctly. Litho-  
graphers of artistic and non-  
artistic Chinese calendars will  
have no difficulty as they start  
with the first day of the next  
Chinese year.

It is interesting to note that  
the Manchu Dynasty always pro-  
vided for the employment of two  
foreigners, usually Portuguese  
Jesuit Fathers, in administrative  
positions on the Board of  
Astronomy.

The coal shortage situation in  
Hankow is threatening all in-  
dustrial establishments in this  
centre. Several factories includ-  
ing the mint of Wuchang have  
temporarily shut down due to the  
exorbitant prices of coal. The  
Wuchang Electric Light Co. may  
find it necessary to stop also. The  
Hankow Chamber of Commerce  
has again telegraphed Peking  
requesting the release of railways  
for the transportation of coal.

### BUSY AGAIN.

HONGKONG'S EUROPEAN  
SWINDLER.

TOBACCO SHOP DEFAUDED.

The "\$100 note trick" which has  
been successfully performed by a  
man said to be of European  
appearance on several occasions,  
claimed another victim yesterday,  
shortly before noon.

Entering the Tabacqueria  
Filipina at Queen's Road Central,  
a bargain was made for a box of  
cigars at \$7.25. An impression  
was created in the mind of the  
salesman that four boxes were  
required, and this number was  
placed on the counter. The man  
then said he required only one box,  
and tendered a \$100 note in pay-  
ment. The change was handed  
back in six \$10 notes, six \$5 notes,  
and small change. Having count-  
ed the money two ways and think-  
ing over the purchase for a few  
moments, the customer informed  
the salesman that he did not want  
the cigars at \$7.25 as he thought  
the price was only \$4. At his  
request, the \$100 note was return-  
ed and he handed back the change  
to the cashier, apparently intact.  
On the money being counted after  
the man had left the shop, it was  
found to be \$50 short.

The thief is described by the  
shop as well dressed in a black  
suit and felt hat. He was of sun-  
burnt appearance, with a little  
growth of beard. He is also said  
to be not very fluent in English,  
although this failing may be only  
assumed in order the more easily  
to carry out his trick of ringing  
the changes.

The "China Mail" reported two  
incidents in which this trick was  
successfully carried out. A piece  
goods dealer in Wing Lok Street  
was victimised to the extent of  
\$50. The other occasion was that  
in which a stationer's shop in  
Queen's Road East suffered a  
loss of \$40. Recently the  
Commercial Press, Ltd. at Queen's Road Central was  
robbed of \$40. On this occasion  
a fountain pen was bought for  
\$8.50 and later the \$100 note was  
called back as the article appeared  
to be too dear, \$40 being found  
short after the man had left the  
shop.

### HEAVY SEAS.

STEAMERS' ROUGH  
PASSAGES.

THE MISSING "HAIPHONG."

Shipping in these parts of the  
China Sea is still being adversely  
affected by the monsoon.

Captain W. C. Weston of the  
s.s. "Ling Nam," (Chinese flag),  
who left Iquique on December 18  
and Taranan on December 20, re-  
ports that his ship set 21 miles  
West in 45 hours near Pedra  
Point, Luzon Island. In his voy-  
age across to Hongkong, he en-  
countered a strong monsoon from  
the North of Luzon.

Both the "Glenbeg" and the  
German motor-ship "Ermland"  
ran into the monsoon on their  
way up from Singapore. They  
both arrived yesterday afternoon.  
The "Glenbeg" took about 7 days,  
and Captain P. L. Sanders re-  
ports: "Strong head wind and  
rough sea." The "Ermland"  
which took about 3 days, says:  
"Very strong N.E. monsoon."

Taking 10 days to make the  
direct run from Bangkok to  
Swatow, the s.s. "Kwangchow"  
(Captain C. Plunkett Cole), who  
got in early this morning, re-  
ported: "Strong N.E. monsoon  
and heavy sea."

Evidently it is not only the in-  
coming ships that are meeting  
with bad weather.

Leaving Hongkong for Austra-  
lia via Manila, the "Tango  
Maru" had a rough time crossing  
over to Manila.

Further details are to hand  
about the s.s. "Haiphong," re-  
ported last Saturday to have been  
missing with some explosives  
on board.

According to the "Straits  
Times," the Governor of Indo-  
China notified:—

"Steamer 'Haiphong' having  
left Quinhon on December 3,  
bound for Tourane, has not  
reached the latter port and has  
not been seen since she left Tour-  
ane. The steamer had on board  
130 people, including 12 of  
French nationality. She was  
carrying several tons of explo-  
sives. Her rudder was damaged  
before reaching Quinhon.

"Search made by the lighthouse  
steamers 'Paul Bel' and 'Armand  
Rousseau,' as well as by the gun-  
boat 'Malicieuse,' off the coast of  
Annam and in the region of the  
Pannuels and Pulo Ceir de Mer,  
has so far proved fruitless.

"Please inform all captains of  
steamers crossing that part of  
the China Sea and ask them to  
keep a sharp look-out upon the  
routes followed by their steamers  
and communicate any informa-  
tion which may throw light on the  
fate of the steamer."

The "Haiphong" was built in  
1885-1886, and is of 1,300 tons.  
She was in service of the M. M.  
Co. between Singapore and  
Batavia from 1910 to 1913, and  
when this service was given up,  
she was for many years running  
between Haiphong, Saigon and  
Singapore, and in 1921 was sold  
to a Chinese Company. The dis-  
tance between Quinhon and  
Tourane is about 360 miles.

The "Manila Bulletin" says:—  
"The British steamer 'Hai-  
foong,' 1,146 tons net, owned by  
the Douglas S.S. Co., Ltd., and  
operated between Hongkong and  
other ports in the Far East, has  
been missing for some days and  
fear is felt that it may have met  
disaster during recent monsoons,  
according to advices received by  
the collector of customs here."

On enquiry from the local offices  
it was gathered that the Douglas  
Co.'s ship of that name had been  
lying at Shamsui for over a  
month! Possibly the "Hai Foong"  
has been confused with the "Hai-  
phong" mentioned above.

### GOOD RECORD.

SAVES A MAN FROM JAIL.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the  
Central Magistracy this morning,  
an employee of the Hongkong  
Electric Company was charged  
with the theft of a quantity of  
metal, the property of his  
employers.

Sub-Inspector Field stated that  
the man was brought to the  
Station by an Indian sergeant who  
had found the metal in the defend-  
ant's possession on a search  
being made. Witness knew the  
man to be of good character as he  
had been working for the company  
for a good number of years.

A representative of the company  
pleaded for leniency on behalf  
of the man as he had borne a good  
character and had been an old  
servant.

His Worship in addressing the  
prisoner stated that but for the  
plea made by his employers for  
leniency, he would be sent to jail.  
If he did steal again in future,  
His Worship would have no hesita-  
tion in sending him to jail. The  
defendant was ordered to come up  
for judgment if called upon within  
six months.

### XMAS MAIL.

"KALYAN" IN CALMER SEAS.

MAKING PORT TO-MORROW.

The latest wireless news  
from the s.s. "Kalyan" which is  
bringing what is thought to be a  
record number of parcels to Hong-  
kong, is that she is encountering  
less boisterous weather, and that if  
all goes well, she will enter the  
harbour at ten o'clock to-morrow  
morning.

Delivery will be made about  
mid-day to-morrow, if the  
"Kalyan" arrives at the latest  
indicated time, the "China Mail"  
learned from enquiry at the Mails  
Department of the Post Office this  
morning. Even if the boat does  
not arrive until a later hour every  
effort will be made to get delivery  
made during the day.

The s.s. "Kalyan" was due to  
arrive here to-day with over two  
thousand three hundred parcels,  
of which nearly five hundred are  
assured. However, she wirelessed  
through that weather in the China  
Sea would not allow of her arrival  
until Saturday, possibly later.



## SAFEGUARDING FRANCE.

BRITISH DOMINIONS NOT  
LIKELY TO AGREE.

FRENCH FEAR OF GERMANS.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, December 24. "L'Eclair" publishes a long document, which is claimed to be the French official account of conversations between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Herriot at the Chequers last Autumn, from which it appears Mr. MacDonald pointed out it would be very difficult for him to obtain the consent of the Dominions to an agreement safeguarding France, and that British naval and military experts were opposed to a treaty of mutual guarantees.

M. Herriot in reply said from General Nollet's information it appeared Germany was preparing an army of a new type. General Nollet was of opinion that with the 100,000 men allowed her under the Treaty of Versailles, Germany could do again what Prussia did against Napoleon.

Danger At Her Heart. France had a dagger pointed at its heart and M. Herriot would not be doing his duty unless he rendered Germany harmless. He would prefer France should not be paid reparations rather than be compelled to give up security. If there were another war, France would be wiped off the map.

Mr. MacDonald replied sympathetically, but maintained his viewpoint.

The Quai D'Orsay admits the account of the Chequers conversations is authentic.

The French Government proposes to inquire how "L'Eclair" obtained it.

## MR. ZERO.

N.Y. CITY CHURCHES AS  
SHELTERS.

A BENEVOLENT UNKNOWN.

(Reuter's American Service.)

New York, December 24. A white Christmas with intense cold is predicted in the United States. New York is busier than it has been since pre-war days. Crowds laden with parcels are bustling along the streets. Department stores are swamped with business. The Post Office mails are likely to prove a record. An unusual feature of Christmas Eve will be a visit by the ex-German airship "Los Angeles," which, brilliantly illuminated, will fly over the city and send wireless Christmas greetings and carols to hundreds of thousands of listeners.

## THE Sadder Side.

Contrasting with the general merriment, a movement has been started by a "benevolent unknown," who calls himself Mr. Zero. He has taken possession of various Churches in the city as shelters for homeless wanderers, whom Church officials are reluctant to evict.

## CHINA TO POWERS.

PEKING GRATEFUL FOR  
SUPPORT.

(Reuter's Service.)

Peking, December 15. The Chinese Government replying to the note, mentioned on December 9, expresses gratification at the declaration that the Powers will give full support to the provisional Government in Peking under the present chief executive. The reply assures the Powers that the Chinese Government will continue to respect, as always, all treaties, conventions and other engagements duly entered into by China. The Chinese Government is gratified to be apprised that the Governments signatory to the Washington Treaty are willing and anxious to proceed, as soon as practicable, with the carrying out of measures contemplated in the Washington Treaty and the resolutions passed. The Chinese Government hopes these measures will soon be put into execution.

## SUDDEN DEATH.

FALL OF WALL CRUSHES  
TWO MEN.

The fall of a wall at Jardine's Hill at about 4 o'clock yesterday evening resulted in the death of two Chinese, one being a boy, and injuries to two others who had to be taken to hospital. Some heavy timber had been placed against a newly built wall on the other side of which some people were seated. The wall suddenly collapsed, burying several people amongst the debris and timber. The police and Fire Brigade arrived promptly on the scene and effected rescue work.

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY.

GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT  
JOY.

A LOCAL SERMON.

The Rev. C. Clouston Porri, preaching at the Wesleyan Methodist Church last Sunday took as his text:—

"Fear not; for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

Luke 2: 10-12.

Christmas stories appearing in special numbers of magazines will be read during the holiday season by many who will leave unopened the Gospels and unread the most wondrous story of the Holy Birth, which makes Christmas the most joyous day of the whole year.

The original stories, which like exquisite gems of historic value in antique settings, will be treated as old-tales by those who prefer novelties. The wonder, beauty and pathos with which the Birth narratives are invested should make their appeal to those who keep the Feast, and enjoy stories which express the spirit of Christmas.

The permanent significance of the anniversary should be sought; if the writer of the third Gospel has truly interpreted the meaning of the story of Bethlehem, and our search is rewarded; understanding will enhance our joys. The Christmas Evangel means for S. Luke, good news, joyous news; and joy for all the People.

The two-fold story related in the Gospels may be distinguished as Joseph's story as told by S. Matthew, and Mary's story by S. Luke. We were interested in the former last Sunday; our interest to-day is in the latter, the Mother's story. S. Luke writes that "Mary treasured up all these things, often dwelling on them in her mind." It was to the Evangelist, directly or indirectly that many years later the Mother opened up her treasure and enriched the readers of the third Gospel by an intricate account of the circumstances attending the coming of the Christ-child. To S. Luke we are indebted for the story of the Annunciation to Mary in Nazareth, the appearance of the herald angels to the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem and the description of the crowded inn, the birth in a stable and the manger-cradle of the Infant Jesus.

The Christmas story according to S. Luke glows with the awe and wonderment which the most stupendous event in all history, created upon the minds of the sympathetic historian expresses the tenderest sentiments and most exalted emotions inspired by the mysterious Birth. Not without significance is the fact that the Mother's story in the Lucan Gospel finds most frequent interpretation on canvas and in marble, and in poem and song.

We have chosen as a marvellous gem from Mary's treasure the story of the shepherds. The shepherds who live in the Christmas hymn and Carols we love most. We can imagine the scene described picturesquely by the Evangelist and feel the awe and wonder produced by celestial manifestations; the darkness of the night suddenly illumined by the glory of the Lord and the silence broken by the herald angel's message and the chorus of the heavenly choir. Imagination may conceive what sober reason rejects. We live in days when angels no longer burst the bonds of invisibility and silence; we neither see nor hear them. Happily S. Luke was an artist and poet as well as a well-informed historian and was possessed of inspired genius which enabled him to weave into the web of his story threads of divine glory and wonder.

How sorry we feel for those matter of fact common sense people who blinded by the splendour of the celestial herald are made deaf to the good-tidings of great joy! The evangel as a divinely precious gem of truth they reject on account of the antique setting in which it has been preserved.

The wonder and glory of the announcement should prepare us for the greater wonder of the event proclaimed. Fear not, I bring you good news of great joy; for a Saviour is born to you to-day in the town of David. And this is the token for you: you will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger!

"Mary treasured up all these things," the memory of the first visitors, who paid homage to the Infant Jesus, the shepherds, from the fields around Bethlehem and the memory of their story, the Angel messenger and the earliest evangel—"I bring you good news."

The glad-tidings were made to them because they were also the best fitted to understand the message and the sign.

"I bring you good news," for a Saviour who is Christ the Lord is born to you to-day, in the town of David. And this is the sign for you: you will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

The Christmas Message of the Birth of Jesus is declared to be good-news, joyous news, and news for all people. Our Christmas will be the happier if we are among the people to whom the news is still good and joyous.

In the far off days when "The shepherds watched their flocks by night." The good news was anxiously awaited, by an expectant nation. The Jews under the Roman Caesar were living in the past and in the future. Their thoughts turned backward to the glories of the Kingdom over which David ruled as a mighty King and their thoughts turned to the days to come in which an heir of the Davidic line would restore to them their ancient liberties and establish the Kingdom of God amidst the splendours of a Messianic reign. The nation had survived centuries of tragic defeat, exile, oppression and servitude by reason of their intense nationalism and inherent religiousness. They believed in Jehovah their God, they listened to Him in the voices of their prophets and psalmists, and they waited the coming of a deliverer long promised. A tribute people they expected a militant Messiah who by force of arms would defeat their enemies and in triumph reign a mighty monarch. A foreign power taxed to support a foreign power they hated, they looked forward to the joys of freedom and unexampled prosperity. Their faith in God, in their destiny as God's people, created glowing hopes which were coloured by the political and economic condition of the nation.

The darkness of their long night of waiting was suddenly illumined by the glory of the Lord. The silence of centuries was broken by the herald angel announcing the good-tidings, and the army of heaven praising God and proclaiming peace on earth. Shepherds watching their flocks in the fields around Bethlehem heard the glad news, the first Nowell, and the beginning of the Gospel.

Many years had passed since the night of wondrous happenings, when Mary, the mother of our Lord, related to the Evangelist the shepherds' story. The news was good news, joyous news and for all the people at the time S. Luke penned his Gospel.

The wonder and glory of the first Evangel illumines the opening pages in which he describes how the day break from on high hath visited us to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

The announcement of the good-news, which was of national and universal importance, to shepherds first of all people introduces in the Gospel that element of the unexpected which characterises God's ways with men. Angel messengers as bearers of good news should cause us no surprise. Their appearance was recorded in the Old Scriptures, and the Jews were ready to welcome them and their Messiah's Coming should be announced. We are not surprised to find them in the New Testament. They are part of the setting in which the Christmas Evangel as a gem is contained. The shepherds are unexpected. The nation awaited the herald's news—priests of the Temple, Rulers of the Synagogues, Scribes of the Schools and Pharisees of the pious sect—but the shepherds were the chosen ones to hear the first Nowell. The unexpected may be the most appropriate when we understand.

In earlier days the nation which awaited the Messianic King had demanded of the prophet Samuel their first King. Saul was appointed but he disappointed their hopes and was rejected by God. His Successor made the people a great nation established a powerful Kingdom, lived in national memory as a royal hero and idealised became the promise of a national deliverer. It was from the fields of Bethlehem and from the Shepherds that David was taken to be Israel's divinely anointed King. To the shepherds of Bethlehem was made the first announcement of the birth of David's greater Son in the town of David. We may observe a divine appropriateness in the choice of the shepherds.

The glad-tidings were made to them because they were also the best fitted to understand the message and the sign.

"I bring you good news," for a Saviour who is Christ the Lord is born to you to-day, in the town of David. And this is the sign for you: you will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

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The shepherds could visit an inn enter a stable, behold the Babe cradled in the manger and, still believing the Babe to be heir to the promises made to the nation and to be of the royal line of the Shepherd King David. Bidden to welcome a newborn Prince they would never have understood or obeyed. Had priests, rulers of the synagogue, scribes and Pharisees been informed of the birth in a manger of the Messiah-King they would have misunderstood the sign and rejected the message.

They would have demanded the pomp and circumstance of royalty, the signs and tokens of exalted birth.

The good news, the first Christmas Evangel and the promise of peace on earth were made to the shepherds who watched by night, the representatives of the poor and humble.

However, accidental may appear the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Shepherd visitors, manger-cradle, the village, carpenter and his betrothed and the over-crowded inn, we feel these play some part in the good news. They suggest that the good-news must be related to a new order of Kingship in which the King may be humbly born and meanly cradled and to a new order of Kingdom which would be welcomed by the meek and lowly to whom the first announcement was made. They appear as an anticipation of another proclamation made thirty years later by the Babe grown to Manhood. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me."

"Because He has appointed Me to proclaim Good News to the poor."

He has sent Me to announce release to prisoners of war. And recovery of sight to the blind.

To send away free those whom tyranny has crushed. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

The Lucan Gospel which records at the first Beatitude: "Blessed are you poor, because the Kingdom of God is yours," with dramatic appropriateness makes the "poor," "the certain poor shepherds" the earliest to receive the good news of the Coming of the King of that heavenly Kingdom.

The good news according to the Angel's message is one of deliverance, "For a Saviour is born"—and the promise is one of "peace on earth."

The good news must be a deliverance from all that keeps men outside the Kingdom of God and from all things that make for enmity and war. The deliverance need not be from poverty, but it must be from the tyranny of wealth, it is not from humility but it is from pride, and it is not from the foes without so much as it is from the enemies within. The evangelic deliverance is most truly expressed in the name of the Holy Child, "You are to call His Name Jesus, for He Himself will save His people from their sins."

The manger-cradle and the Cross in Calvary are linked together in the chain of deliverance, the poverty of the birth and the agony of the death, discover to us the costliness of the great Salvation.

Christmas brings good news to those who seek the Kingdom of God, and the reign of righteousness, peace and love among men on earth.

The angel's message to the shepherds was good news of great joy; joy for all the people! The Christmas evangel brings the promise of joy and joyousness.

The keynote and theme of the Lucan Gospel is joy. We find it in the songs and praises of the Mother of Our Lord, Elizabeth, Zecharias and Symeon, as well as in the shepherds' praises as they return from the cradle of the Holy Babe to the fields. Jesus causes the crowds to rejoice. He pictures the joy of the prodigal son's return and the joy in heaven over the return of the repentant sinner.

The birth of Jesus brought the joys of heaven to earth. There is a welcome note of joy in the manner of His Coming. He came in simple guise that none so poor and humble may fear to approach Him. He came and lived in the simple condition of those who most truly awaited His Advent. He came in great humility that at infinite cost He might make the world safe and joyous. He came not as a proud King to deliver an expectant nation from the power of a Caesar but as the Son of Man and the Son of God to establish a Kingdom of peace by delivering men from the power of unrighteousness and liberating them to loving service of God and one another. He came to realise the deepest and truest aspirations of humanity by exceeding their expectations and creating higher ideals. He established a new order among men, the Kingdom of God, not by restoring to Israel her ancient liberties but by restoring to mankind their forfeited kinship to God and the freedom of the sons of God.

Christmas recalls the most joyous news to those who have learnt the true meaning of Christmas and discovered in Jesus the Saviour, by Whom they have been brought back to the Father's family and home and restored to the rights and privileges of sonship to those to whom Jesus is Lord and Master whose will is the law of their life, whose life is their ideal of character and service and whose presence with them is that of the Emmanuel, God with us.

The good news, the joyous news is for all the People—universally good, true and joyous.

Slowly but surely the good news spreads and joy extends, the Kingdom of God strengthens and the family circle widens. Christmas returns with its invitations, and appeals and happy are they who like shepherds believe the glad-tidings, understand the sign and in the Babe, born in Bethlehem, find the Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord.

## SHADOWS BEFORE.

Coming Events Advertised  
In The Mail.

## ENTERTAINMENTS.

December 26.—Coronet Theatre; "Richard The Lionhearted."  
December 26.—Star Theatre; "A Big Xmas Programme."  
December 27.—World Theatre; "The Lullaby."  
December 26.—Queen's Theatre; "Saturday Night."  
December 27.—Theatre Royal, Edgar Warwick presents the infallible Wish Wymne.  
January 12 to 17.—Hongkong A.D.C.'s production, "St. Joan," 9 p.m., January 14, 4.30 p.m.

SPORTS.  
December 28.—St. Andrew's v. St. George's Golf Match at Fanling.  
February 16-17-18-21.—Hongkong Jockey Club Annual Race Meetings.

SOCIAL.  
December 26.—Grand Carnival, Hongkong Hotel, Grill Room.  
December 31.—Repulse Bay Hotel special dinner dance.

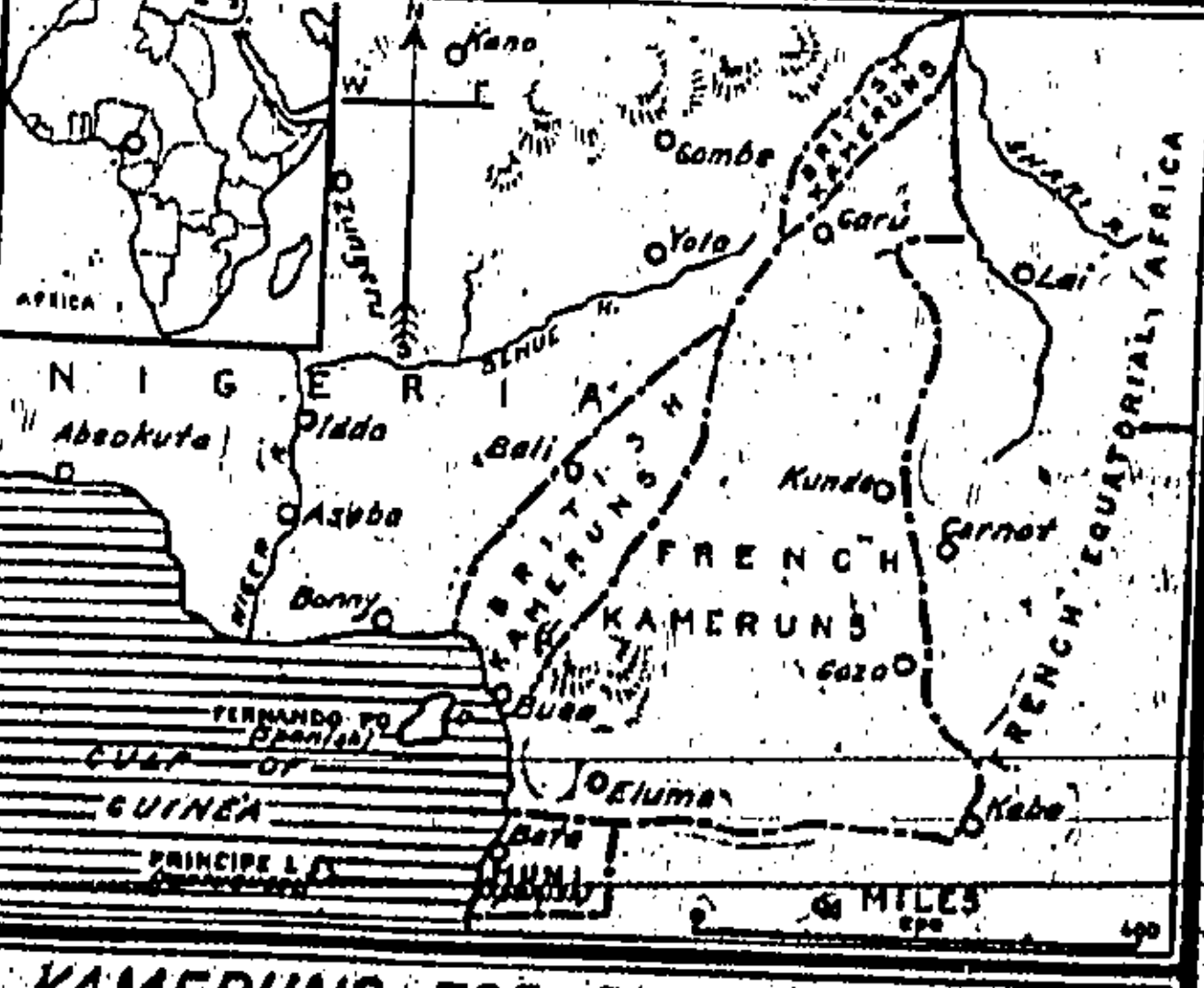
LAND SALE.  
December 29.—At P.W.D. Offices, one lot of Crown land, 3 p.m.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.  
December 29.—Lammert Bros., at Godown No. 25, The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, 30 cases shellac, 11 a.m.  
December 29.—Lammert Bros., at Sales Room, suit lengths, 2.30 p.m.

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1 Qt. Superior Tawny Port.  
2 Qts. St. Julien Claret.  
1 Qt. Old Brown Sherry B.S.  
1 D.O.M. Old Tom or Dry Gin.  
1 Burgundy's Burgundy.  
1 phial Pomeranian Bitters.

No. 2 HAMPER.  
1 Qt. Gaillemart Champagne.  
1 Pt. D.O.M.  
1 Qt. Burgundy's Burgundy.  
1 Martell's XXX Brandy.  
2 Qts. King George IV. or Perfection Whisky.  
1 Tawny Dry Port.  
1 Qt. Falm Claret.  
1 D.O.M. Old Tom or Dry Gin.  
1 Vins de Porto Sherry.  
1 phial Pomeranian Bitters.

No. 3 HAMPER.  
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1 Pt. G. F. Fapermint.  
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1 Qt. Superior Rich Old Port.  
1 King George IV. or Perfection Whisky.  
1 Burgundy's Tawny Port.  
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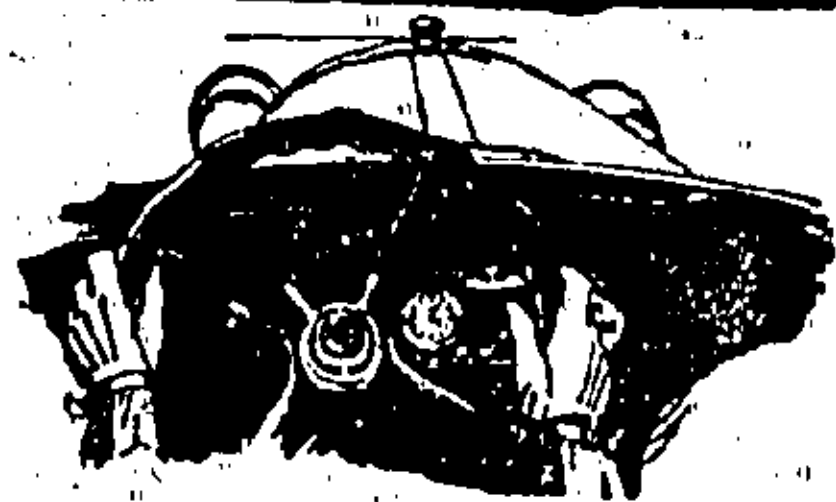
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A message from Paris states that the Chamber of Deputies has passed the estimate of the Ministry of the Colonies.

Four out of the five families evicted at Clydebank on December 23 returned to their homes assisted by a crowd of several thousand people. The police made no attempt to interfere, says Reuter.

Wives of several prominent Chinese in Hankow are founding an endowment fund to be devoted to establishing an institution for taking care of widows and orphans. An initial fund of \$20,000 has been raised by the promoters, who are continuing their drive among women in Hankow to enlarge the fund.

No more passport visas are necessary for persons travelling between Japan and the following countries: France, Italy, and Holland. This is a very good sign, says the "Japan Chronicle." The passport system has been kept on all this time not because of any need, but simply to get a little squeeze from travellers. Great Governments are gradually waking up to the fact that such petty extortion is beneath their dignity.

According to a Riga cable, the Soviet Central Executive Committee has issued a statement that the growing political activity among the proletariat peasantry has necessitated a revision of the Soviet institutions; therefore it has summoned a conference of fifty-six members to advise, inter alia, to what extent it may be possible to admit non-Communists to real participation in the country's administration.

A Tokyo message, dated December 23, reads:—The Japan and Chinese radio question, vis-à-vis the Federal wireless contract, is variously reported in vernacular columns, as well as in despatches from China, all of which Foreign Office spokesmen declare are erroneous, and state the government is not pressing for a solution, considering the present moment inopportune in view of the unsettled conditions of China. Certain quarters urge Japan to take up the question with America directly, but the government has no intention of doing so, a decision which, it is understood, corresponds with the American viewpoint.

According to a Berlin cable, Herr Stresemann's organ, "Der Zeit," announces that the Foreign Minister declines to join a cabinet based on the present three party coalition.

Gambling of all sorts is rife all over Kongmoon, writes our correspondent in that port. "Fan Tan" is the monopoly of the militarists but other forms of public gambling are now in vogue, those in charge getting all they can for giving permission and protection.

W. R. Rice and Company, agents in China for the West Coast Life Insurance Company of San Francisco announces to the public that henceforth life insurance rates for foreigners in China, insured by the Company, are to be approximately on the same basis as rates prevailing in the United States. The announcement is of considerable interest in that it indicates that the West Coast Life Insurance is convinced that the hazards of life for the foreigner residing in China are apparently no greater than for the residents of the United States.

Two new liners have been launched by Messrs. Barclay Curie and Co. on the Clyde for the P. and O. Company's Australia Service. These are the "Cathay" and "Comorin." The former was christened by Viscountess Inchcape and the latter by her daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Alexander Shaw. Viscount Inchcape, Chairman of the P. and O. Company, was present at the launching. The "Cathay" and "Comorin" are two of three sister ships, each of 15,000 tons, with comfortable passenger accommodation and good speed. The third of these vessels to be called the "Chitral" is being built by Alexander Stephen and Son at Lint-house, Glasgow. The Company's losses in ships sunk by enemy action during the war were heavy, and its larger passenger steamers were particularly singled out for destruction, so that for the past four years the Australia service via Suez has had to be limited to four-weekly departures. When the three new ships are in commission, the P. and O. Company's pre-war fortnightly service to Australia will be re-established. The "Cathay" will sail on her maiden voyage on Feb. 27 next; the "Comorin" a month later.

Dr. R. M. Wilson, President of the Kwanju Leper Home in Korea, makes certain proposals for the obliteration of the disease in the peninsula. He would have the Government provide an adequate tract of land on the west coast for the gradual isolation of all the lepers in the country, with a provision of ¥4 a month each for their support. The Mission to Lepers would provide the balance necessary for the support of the lepers and also funds for housing 500 of them, as a start, while the Korea Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the United States would supervise and manage the work free of charge.

The University of Nanking bulletin, Volume 6, Number 17, contains the tenth annual report of the College of Agriculture and experiment station, for 1923-24. The report shows the rapid expansion of work in the college of agriculture, which is attributed to the new projects undertaken in connection with the famine prevention programme, which has been approved by the American Famine Fund Committee. There has been a large increase in the number of teachers, associates, and assistants. Instruction has been better cared for, extension work has been considerably enlarged, and all investigations and research work much more effectively organized. According to the report they are four-fifths of the way toward the \$100,000 required for the erection of the badly needed college of agriculture and forestry building.

The office of the American Commercial Attaché in Peking has received word from Paul Y. Chang, president and general manager of the Chinese Art and Industrial Exhibition, which plans to open January 1 in Seattle, that the necessary space has been secured and arrangements completed for financing the project. Three well-known and important exhibitions in China; namely, the National Educational Exhibition, China Arts Exhibition, and the Western China Exhibition, have donated many of their best exhibits for use on this occasion. Considerable emphasis is being placed by the management of this temporary exhibition on the necessity of arranging for a permanent exhibition of Chinese industrial products to be kept open in Seattle.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Payr. Commr. J. M. L. Cusack has been appointed to H.M.S. "Bee," addl. (January 15), and is Resident Naval Officer, Shanghai (from date of joining).

Dr. Wellington Koo, former Foreign Minister, is reported to have arrived in Shanghai from Weihaiwei, and taken up his residence. He is reported to show disinclination to discuss politics.

The concert party of the H.M.S. "Hawkins" gave an entertainment at the Naval Hospital on Christmas Eve to the patients, as a Christmas treat. The invalids assembled in one of the wards and fully enjoyed the concert.

Dr. and Mrs. Francis Clark of Mukden leave for England early in the New Year. They are well known in Hongkong where they spent just twenty years (1895-1915). During the War, Dr. Clark had medical charge of military officers who had contracted consumption in the trenches.

Passengers for Hongkong by the "Sarpedon" include Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Tinson, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. S. Doidwell, Capt. and Mrs. A. J. Bailey, Mr. J. B. Bailey, Capt. C. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hayward, Mr. R. F. C. Master, Mr. R. Melville Smith, Mrs. H. Melville Smith.

Engineer-Captain E. G. Pallot, D.S.O., who has just taken the turbine and internal combustion engine courses, began the oil fuel course on November 28. He is to leave shortly for China to become Chief Engineer of Hongkong Dockyard. An additional candidate for promotion to acting warrant engineer is now declared successful at the examination, Alfred Sumner, of H.M.S. "Titanic," on the China Station.

May Yohé, actress, who appeared in Shanghai years ago and gained fame through the world by her possession of the Hope Diamond, is in the limelight again. She is married to Mr. John A. Smuts, cousin of General Jan Smuts, South Africa. Her husband shot himself recently because he said he had been unkind to his wife. He probably will recover. May Yohé was wearer of the Hope Diamond when she was the wife of Lord Francis Hope.

General Chiang Tso-pin, a leading Kuomintang commander, has visited Hunan recently on a special mission to end the fractional strife now taking place in Hunan. He comes to Hunan as a representative of Marshal Tuan Chih-jui.

The death is announced of Mr. M. E. Lane, formerly a member of the China Medical Board construction staff in Peking, and more recently in the installation of a power plant for the John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

A Marseilles cable states that General Hsu Tzu-ting (Little Hsu), interviewed by the papers, said China "will not delay to become quiet and Bolshevism need not be feared." The Chinese Republic, he said, wishes to lighten the amicable relations with France in conformity with Marshal Tann's policy.

Passengers arriving by the s.s. "Empress of Canada" from Vancouver and ports, included Mr. G. H. Lynott of Messrs. Davis and Co., returning from the United States; Mr. H. Burgess, Supt. Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Steamship Ltd., accompanied by Mrs. Burgess; Mr. W. T. Dye of Messrs. Trollope and Colls Ltd., and Mr. F. B. Marshall.

The Countess of Reading has again made a generous donation to the Walker Hospital, Simla, by forwarding a sum of Rs. 3,000 to the treasurer of that institution. Thanks to Her Excellency's practical interest and to the untiring energy of Lady Rawlinson the outlook for the hospital is brighter than it has been for some time. Since 1921 the management have been engaged in a constant struggle to keep the hospital going, and Colonel F. W. Sumner, on whom the main burden has fallen, has been unflinching in his efforts to induce the European public and official bodies to realise the importance of ensuring the continuance of the institution. The military authorities have appreciated the practical benefits which they derive from the hospital, and their appreciation is expressed in an annual grant. During the last season the activities of the Countess of Reading and Lady Rawlinson have been supplemented by the interest of Mrs. Macmillan, who organised a special entertainment party on behalf of the hospital.

Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Hongkong's Commissioner at Wembley, returned to the Colony by the s.s. "Sarpedon."

J. C. Hinton, formerly U. S. Consul at Tientsin, has arrived in Hankow from America accompanied by his family. Mr. Hinton has been assigned to the American Consulate-General at Hankow. Prior to his appointment to Tientsin Mr. Hinton was in Hankow.

A third Additional Judge has been sanctioned for the Rangoon High Court. The post is to be a temporary one for a period of two years, with effect from the 12th November next. The Governor-General-in-Council has appointed Mr. P. N. Chari, B.L., M.L.C., pleader, to this new post.

Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, U. S. Minister to China returned from a brief trip to America, on Monday, December 15, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Barbara Schurman. Dr. Schurman expected to depart for Peking on Thursday, December 18. While in Shanghai he was the guest of honour at several functions including a luncheon at the American Club by the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce, and a guest at dinner at the Union Club on Wednesday evening, December 17.

Some particulars are announced for the forthcoming visit to India and Far Eastern countries of Dr. Robert G. Cochrane, son of Dr. Thomas Cochrane, founder of the Union Medical College, Peking. He is the delegate of the Mission to Lepers. In India Dr. Cochrane will work with Dr. Ernest Muir at the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, where the preparation is undertaken of many serums for injections that are being tried in India, China, and the Philippine Islands. Dr. Cochrane, after visiting Burma, will go to Siam, where Dr. McKean has been working in close co-operation with the Siamese Government, which is doing much to stamp out the scourge. Thence he will visit leper work in North Borneo, the Netherlands Indies, and the Philippines, and will afterwards engage in research work at the Medical College, Peking. In China alone it is estimated there are a million lepers. He will travel home through Korea and America, and about two years hence hopes to be able to engage in further investigations in Africa.

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## CRICKET.

## TEAMS SELECTED FOR TO-MORROW.

C. R. C. v. K. C. C.

The undermentioned have been selected to play for the K. C. C. in the above League Match, at 2 p.m. to-morrow at Chiswick Park.

K. C. C. 1st XI:—F. Overy, (Capt.), J. C. Fletcher, P. Goodwin, J. C. Lloyd, A. W. Ramsay, S. J. Jex, Geo. Lee, H. H. Benson, K. R. Mackintosh, J. Fraser, and R. C. Widdell.

K. C. C. "A" v. R. E.

To-morrow 2 p.m. on the K. C. C. ground, the following have been selected to play for the K. C. C. "A" team in a friendly match.

K. C. C. 2nd XI:—D. Petheram, (Capt.), B. J. Edwards, O. B. Rayen, G. Barnshaw, W. F. J. Corbin, A. A. Dand, R. J. Masters, E. G. Renton, J. C. Long, E. J. Jordan, and J. H. Hendle.

## WORLD THEATRE.

## "THE LULLABY."

To have one's engagement extended over a second week, or to be booked for a "repeater" at the same house within a short period is considered by vaudeville artists as a marked evidence of popularity. Perhaps the vaudeville audiences of earlier days, when vaudeville was known as variety, were more demonstrative in their appreciation of the performers of that period, whatever may have been the reason, it is a matter of record that Lydia Yeaman-Titus, at present a prominent character in the vaudeville world, played an engagement of twenty-one successive weeks in San Francisco during one season when she was in the hey-day of her popularity as an imitator and singer of character songs in costume. Mr. Yeaman-Titus may be seen on the screen at the World Theatre in the latest June Novak play, "The Lullaby."

## QUEEN'S THEATRE.

## "SATURDAY NIGHT."

If you are ambitious to appear in the movies, here's a word of advice: Talk to Leatrice Joy first. Together with a large proportion of the rest of the world, Miss Joy once had ambitions to act on the screen. Unlike the majority of hopeful aspirants, she was promptly given an opportunity to gratify her ambition.

Almost the first thing she did in the filming of "Saturday Night," Cecil B. DeMille's Paramount picture in which she plays one of the prominent roles and which comes to the Queen's Theatre to-day was to drive a radiator into a dangerous skier, run it out on a railroad trestle a hundred feet above the ground, abandon the car as it approached the electric train, and with her fellow players, Jack Mower, swing suspended below the trestle as the train rushed overhead, crushing the car to junk-above them! All of which proved to be a rather severe initiation into DeMille's methods of realism.

## CHINA COMMAND.

## MAJOR-GENERAL LUARD APPOINTED.

A Ruter message, received to-day, announces that Major-General Charles Camac Luard, C.B., C.M.G., has been appointed to succeed General Sir John Fowler as G.O.C. China command.

Major-General Luard was born in 1867, and was educated at Clifton College and the R. M. C., Canada.

He served in the South African war 1900-1902 (Queen's medal and 4 clasps, King's medal and 2 clasps) and in the European war 1914-1918 (despatches C.B., C.M.G.).

In 1909 Major-General Luard married Miss Catherine Hammond, daughter of the late Mr. H. R. Salley, Sergeant Hill, King's Langley. The family consists of one son and one daughter.

Mr. E. J. Powell, who has served the Smithfield Club for more than half a century and has been its secretary and historian for 37 years, is to retire on December 31. He is 73.

Lord Plunket, Gloucester-square, Bayswater, was at Marlborough, street, fined a total of £2 for exceeding the speed limit of 20 miles an hour and driving a motor-car without a licence in Hyde Park on October 14.

After 12 years the ball at the Mansion House given by the Lord Mayor of London, to which the Lord mayors, mayors, lord provosts, and provosts of the United Kingdom are invited, is to be revived, next October.

## NEW B. I. LINER.

## S.S. "QUERIMBA" LAUNCHED AT SUNDERLAND.

Sunderland, October 17.—The launch of the large steamer "Querimba" at Messrs. Wm. Gray and Co.'s shipyard at Pallion, Sunderland, yesterday, was attended by probably as many people as have ever witnessed a launch on the river for many years past. The builders invited the New Zealand Rugby football team, who are visiting the town, and a large number of well-known shipowners, shipbuilders, marine engineers, and business men of the North-East Coast were also present.

The Hon. Kenneth Mackay, Mr. G. F. Hotblack (directors), and Captain W. M. Isdale (superintendent) represented the British India Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., for whom the vessel has been built, and the firm of Messrs. William Gray and Co., Ltd., was represented by Mr. William Gray (vice-chairman), F. C. Pyman (managing director), A. McGlashan, T. McCarthy, M. S. Gibb, J. H. Farmer, A. Jones (directors), O. Stephenson (secretary), and W. B. Shaw (manager of the Wear Shipyard).

The vessel was christened by Miss K. I. Gray, daughter of Sir William C. Gray, Bart., and the ship entered the water gracefully to the accompaniment of cheers.

The visitors afterwards adjourned to the shipyard canteen for tea.

## EXCEPTIONALLY FINE BOAT.

Mr. William Gray proposed "Success to the Querimba" and the health of the guests. He said it was a great pleasure to him to welcome on behalf of the directors of Messrs. William Gray and Co. that large and distinguished gathering. It had been a disappointment that Lord Inchcape, whose life-long interest in the affairs of India and Australasia were so well known, found himself unable to be present. It had been a further disappointment that his daughter-in-law, the Hon. Mrs. Kenneth Mackay, who was to have christened the boat was also unable to be present.

The "Querimba," when completed, would be an exceptionally fine cargo liner of more than 500 feet in length, capable of carrying 12,000 tons of cargo. Her large quadruple machinery would drive her through the seas at 12 knots or more. She followed other big steamers they had built for the British India Company, and he hoped she might prove a worthy example of British shipbuilding and workmanship of the River Wear. He believed that her owners would have a long life of profitable service, and in her journeys she would find her way to the great countries of Australia and New Zealand, thus forming another link binding together our great Empire.

## WONDERFUL WORKMANSHIP.

The Hon. Mr. Kenneth Mackay, replying on behalf of the owners, said the "Querimba" would be engaged in trade throughout the British Empire, and he hoped she would soon become a familiar sight in the various ports of our overseas Dominions. (Hear, hear.) He had to congratulate the builders for the wonderful workmanship which had been put into the vessel, and he was certain it would not be the fault of the builders if the ship was not a great success throughout her career. (Applause.)

Mr. F. C. Pyman proposed the health of the New Zealanders, and hoped they would cherish happy recollections of their visit to the Wear shipyard. He wished they could have seen it when it was busy, and not in a time of depression. Mr. S. S. Dean, manager of the team, in replying, thanked Messrs. Gray for having invited them to be present. To most of them it was a sight they had not witnessed before, and probably might not witness again.

## TO KEEP YOUNG.

## AMERICAN EXPERIMENT OF FASTING.

New York, November 21.—The discovery of a sovereign specific against old age is claimed by Professor A. J. Carlson, of the department of physiology in the University of Chicago. After 3 years' investigation he has reached the conclusion that fasting is the key to renewed youth.

According to him the proper dose of this rejuvenating process is 15 days fast. At the end of this period three adults in his laboratory found their metabolic rate amazingly increased. Their tissues when they resumed eating consumed as much as those of youths of 15. In terms of basal metabolism their age was nearer 12 than 40.

Professor Carlson, who subjected himself to this process, declares that his experiments prove that prolonged fasting increases the secretion of gastric juice after eating has been resumed and that bodies regain their normal weight.

"We have established," he says, "that fasting brings the tissues back to more youthful conditions, though the precise mechanism by which the changes in the gastric secretions are induced is as yet unknown."

## Helps Those Hard-Working.

The danger of influenza is its tendency to develop into pneumonia. Stop your cold before it reaches this danger point and for the purpose of palatal, whooping, breathing, take Cham's Cold Remedy. It is for sale everywhere.

## PREMEPH OF ASHANTI.

## END OF TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS' EXILE.

Prempeh, the last King of Ashanti, who was deposed by the British in 1866, and exiled, first to Elmina and subsequently to the Seychelles, is now on his way back to Ashanti. A Ruter telegram from Gibraltar announces the arrival of Prempeh at that port on October 21 accompanied by two sons and an official of the Gold Coast Service. From Gibraltar Prempeh will be taken to Liverpool, where he will tranship for the Gold Coast.

Two or three years ago several of the Ashanti chiefs who were deported to the Seychelles with Prempeh were allowed to return home, and the Ashanti petitioned the ex-King himself might also be allowed to come back. After much delay this request was granted. Prempeh returns to Ashanti not as King, but as a private person. During his 28 years of exile he has become a Christian. While at the Seychelles he had many companions in exile, among them for a short time, Zizul Pasha. Others were Mwanga, the ex-King of Buganda, Kabarega, the warrior King of Bunyoro, who eventually released, died on his way back to Central Africa, and Seyid Khaled of Zanzibar.

Prempeh, then a young man, became King of Ashanti after a long desolating civil war in March, 1893, his title as King being Kwaku Dua III. To put an end to misgovernment and raids on the Gold Coast Prempeh was called upon in 1895 to accept a British protectorate, a force under Sir Francis Scott being dispatched to compel submission. Prempeh's exile followed.

The golden stool, on which at his coronation Prempeh had been enthroned, was hidden by the Ashanti. The search for it was the cause of the revolt of 1900 and of the siege of Coomassie. Not till 1921 was the stool discovered, and then the British authorities, having learned that it was regarded as the chief religious symbol of the Ashanti, laid no claim to it. This is believed to have dispelled the last lingering resentment felt by the Ashanti against the British and to have rendered possible the return of Prempeh.

## SLEEPY SICKNESS.

## DISEASE DATES BACK MANY YEARS.

The mysterious "sleepy sickness," which is again on the increase in England is generally regarded as a very modern affliction but there are numerous records, in documents of a couple of hundred years ago, that describe what appear to have been cases of that disease.

One was a woman of twenty-seven, living at St. Maurice-sur-Lauron, near Toulouse. Hitherto in good health, she fell into a three-day sleep on July 20, 1751. Awakening, she asked for some bread, but fell asleep five minutes later while eating it. This second sleep lasted thirteen days. Then she made a brief meal and fell asleep again for nine days. This sort of thing went on for the rest of the year. Her three longest awakenings were for twenty-four hours, three hours, and half an hour respectively.

The following summer a nineteen-year-old girl at Newcastle, Staffordshire, went to sleep for fourteen weeks, during which time her father used to take her out for drives and to be inspected by doctors. Nothing could awaken her meanwhile. Then she did awaken at last, and soon recovered.

In 1738 the parish priest of St. Gillan, near Mons, had a servant named Elizabeth Orian. In August that year, at the age of thirty-six she fell into a sound sleep that lasted four days. Awakening, she managed to get on with her duties for another week. Then she slept for eighteen hours in one spell. For some years thereafter she used to sleep from 3 a.m. until 8 or 9 p.m., except about four months in the year 1745, when she was well again, and about twenty-one days in 1748, when she suffered from ague. Pins were stuck into her during her sleep, surgeons beat her across the shoulders until she bled and even exposed her to the stings of angered bees in an attempt to awaken her, but all in vain.

There is a record, too, of one William Foxley, a maker of melting pots in the London Mint, in the time of Henry VIII, who also appears to have been stricken with "sleepy sickness." One of his periods of slumber lasted fourteen days, during which time "he could not be awakened either by burning or pinching."

Helps Those Hard-Working.

The danger of influenza is its tendency to develop into pneumonia. Stop your cold before it reaches this danger point and for the purpose of palatal, whooping, breathing, take Cham's Cold Remedy. It is for sale everywhere.

## THINGS MEN SAY.

## SOME HISTORIC GIBES AT WOMEN.

In one of her recently published letters Lady Ritchie, Thackeray's daughter, tells a correspondent that she had been out to dinner and sat next to Sir William Harcourt, who said "aggravating things about women, as usual," writes G.M.A. in the "Manchester Guardian." Pin-pricks are notoriously harder to bear than the deep wounds of abuse. Mr. Arthur Symonds has had terrible moments in thinking "how many men of genius have dealt largely with the question of the repulsive-ness of women." A general charge of repulsiveness can be borne with equanimity. It is more difficult to indict a whole sex than a whole nation, and women do not feel it incumbent to be apologetic and miserable for the sins of odd members of their community any more than men feel it a necessity to wear blue spectacles because Emily Bronte once created a villain and likened his evil eyes to the cloudy windows of hell. The indictment of woman as a sex has gone on merrily from Simonides—who differentiated between women made up of canine particles, the materials that enter into the composition of a fox, and the ingredients which compose an ass—to Schopenhauer, who proclaimed women *en masse* "most thorough and incurable philistines," and Tolstoy, who is most sweeping of all: "I shall one day write about women. When I am quite old and my digestion is completely out of order, and I am still looking out into the world through one eye, then I shall pop my head out and tell them 'That's what you are!' and then pop it in again or they would peck me to death."

For the best answer to general denunciation perhaps women cannot do better than turn to the pages of the "Heart of Midlothian."

"Like all rogues, he was a great calumniator of the fair sex."

The things which annoyed Lady Ritchie are in a very different category. Perhaps the most tiresome of all was uttered by William Morris. "There are two things about which women know absolutely nothing—dress and cookery. Their twist isn't that way. They have no sense of colour or grace in drapery, and they never invented a new dish or failed to half spoil an old one."

To understanding of clothes and cookery, women have always laid claim to a special knowledge of children and skill in their treatment. It is annoying to find Jeremy Taylor pooh-poohing the claim, and insisting to Mrs. Jeremy Taylor that he can be much the better mother of the two on general as well as on particular grounds:—"Mothers soften their children with kisses and imperfect noises, with the breast-milk of soft endearments. They rescue them from tutors and snatch them from discipline. They desire to keep them fat and warm, and their feet dry and their bellies full; and then the children govern, and cry, and prove fools and troublesome, and this shall happen so long as the feminine republic does endure." With his usual chivalry, Mr. Gosse has suggested that if Jeremy Taylor had not thought wet feet negligible and a finely masculine condition the dreadful mortality which presently pursued his little children might have been averted.

The things that have been said about women's looks, and their preoccupation with them, acquire an additional harshness because so many of them have come from men from whom one would least expect vexation. There is, for instance, Charles Lamb's famous pronouncement: "upon women: God bless them, and when He makes any more, make 'em prettier," and when William Cowper turns aside from his cats and his toffs to discourse upon a subject so unsuited to his genius as face-painting, and reasons that a painted face is virtuous in France and immoral in England, he adds a rider to the effect that even in England "if a husband choose that his wife should paint it might be her duty to comply. In no other case, however, can I imagine the practice in this country to be either expedient or convenient." It is hard to imagine a more annoying theory than that a husband should be the arbiter of the powder-bowl and the rouge-pot.

After taunts about clothes, cooking, children, and complexions, perhaps the next most "aggravating thing" is the insinuation that if the highest possible compliment is required for a woman she must be labelled a man—as in the epitaph of Maria Theresa of Austria, "In sex a woman, in abilities a man," and the famous panegyric of the French Duchess "She has all the qualities of a man, generous, discreet, enemy to all irony considered by all the Royal Family"—but that her true approximation was fixed in France by La Rochefoucauld, with his eternal *les femmes et les jeunes gens* and in England by Lord Chesterfield, "Women are below men and above children, but nearer to the latter." Goethe's little alto that the public must be treated like women and children

## CORONET THEATRE.

## THE COVERED WAGON.

Away from the beaten track of cinema pictures, the Covered Wagon proves itself an historical document of immense value aside from the thrilling days when the West was untamed and largely in the hands of the Redskins. The very word Redskins is enough to arouse the attention and to make the blood tingle. Their possession of the land they held was disputed by the peaceful invasion of the settlers, and wakened what scenes were enacted and blood shed in the conflicts that took place. There is, in this story, the intrepid leader whose sterling qualities win through in the face of impending disgrace, and hold the heart of the heroine in spite of the efforts of a rival to blacken his character. The story is a moving one and only capable artists have been enrolled to make the picture the great one it is. The Coronet are confident that this film will vie with others it has shown in popularity and will draw enthusiastic and pleased crowds to the theatre.

## TO-DAY'S

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## NOTICE.

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Captain Superintendent of Police, Hongkong, 24th December, 1924.

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## TO-DAY.

## SUNDAY

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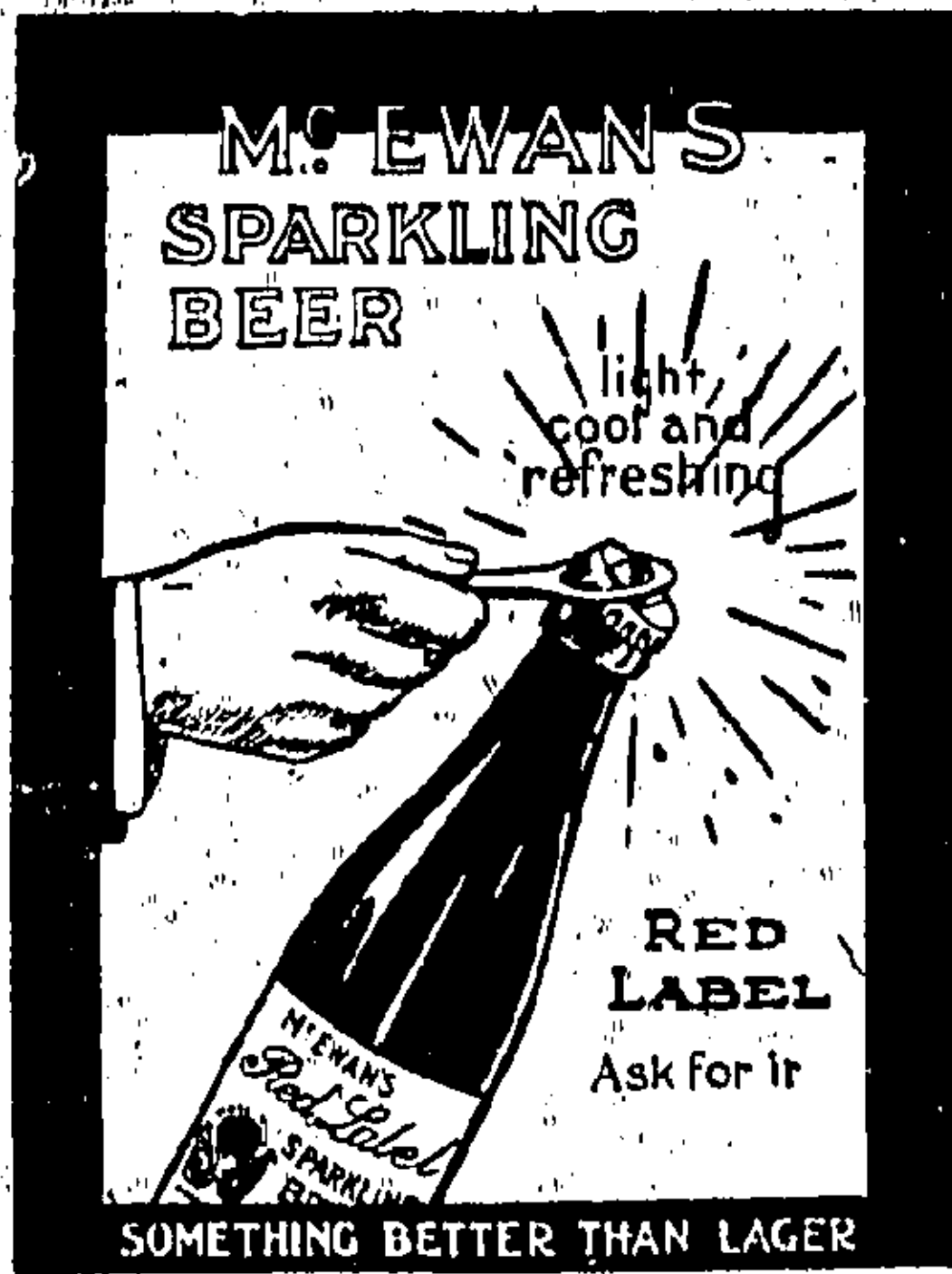
Leatrice Joy—Conrad Nagel  
Edith Roberts—Jack Mower  
Theodore Roberts—Julia Faye



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## "SHOT OF DESTINY."



"THE SHOT OF DESTINY" BY

This painting, "The Shot of Destiny," the work of David Cunningham Lithgow, is soon to be unveiled in the Essex County Court House, in Elizabeth New Jersey. The painting portrays the beginning of the brief battle of Samuel de Champlain and his Huron Indian allies with a war party of Iroquois. It shows the explorer firing the shot which was destined to exert an influence to which historians believe all subsequent events in American colonial history may be traced.

## Measuring Exertion.



MISS ELEANOR PHELPS

Miss Eleanor Phelps, a university student, is shown here, with watch in hand, ready to run upstairs, as part of her studies. The watch will measure the extent of energy or excitement entailed in mounting the steps rapidly.

## FIGURES IN THE NEWS SPOTLIGHT.



THOMAS H. INCE. EDGAR A. BANCROFT. HAZEL 'SUNNY' BOYNE. PATRICK CARDINAL HAYES.

Thomas H. Ince, youthful motion picture producer, who featured Bill Hart, Charles Ray, Frank Keenan, Louise Glum and Douglas MacLean, dropped dead at his home, "Dias Dorados," in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles. Edgar A. Bancroft, now American Ambassador to Japan, has been received in audience by the Prince Regent in Tokio. Patrick Cardinal Hayes, one of the youngest Cardinals in the Catholic Church, has just passed his fifty-seventh birthday. "Get me out of jail and I'll be a good boy," written in an appealing note to Hazel "Sunny" Boyne, actress, failed to get her to drop alimony charge against Robert Stuart Eschelman, known on the stage as Don Roberts.

## SIX-YEAR-OLD WORLD TRAVELLER.



META RUBKE

Meta Rubke, six-year-old German girl, en route from Berlin to California, unaccompanied, permits F. E. Beck to punch her ticket as she leaves the Washington Union Station for the West. Mrs. M. C. Holiday, of the Travellers' Aid Society, put her on the train.

## Woman Diver.



MISS HILDA JOHNSON

One of the largest wrecking and salvaging companies of the United States with headquarters in New York City, has employed Miss Hilda Johnson as a deep sea diver, the first woman to undertake such hazardous work in America.

## NOBLE WOMAN OPENS SHOP



VISCOUNTESS DE FRIES

Rare tapestries and art relics are being sold in an antique shop by Viscountess de Fries, member of an old family of French nobility.

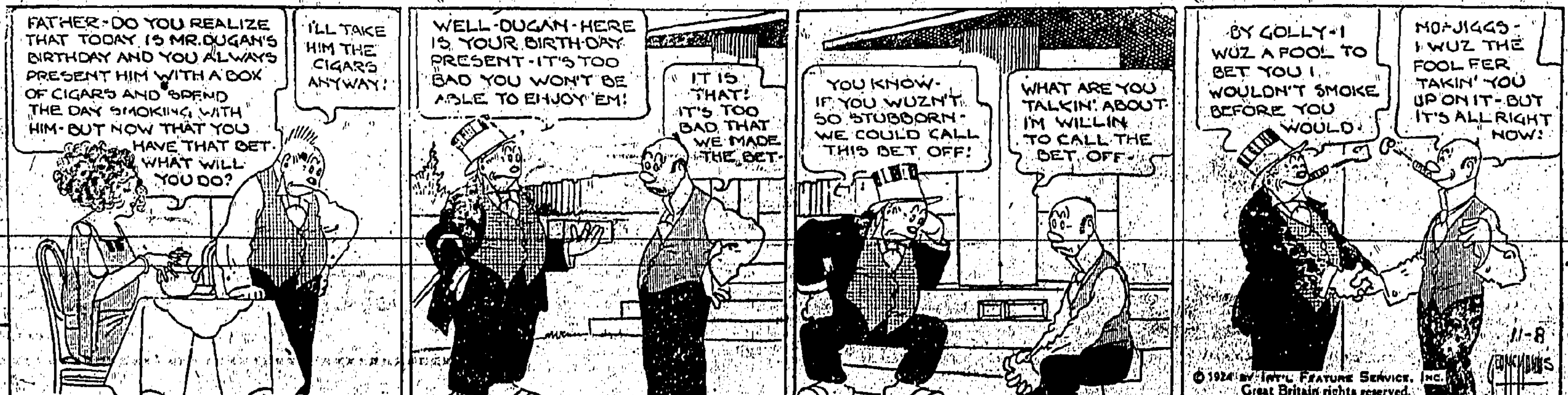
## GLASSES— BRIGHTER VISION

Clearer vision enables a person to do much better work than when the eyes are labouring under a strain. Good vision is assured every one that comes to us for help. We specialize in examining eyes and fitting glasses.

When in doubt about your eyes see

**CHINESE OPTICAL CO.**

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## BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

## Coal Merchants

Kailan Mining Admin. (Sjoedwell & Co. Ltd.), Colliery & Steamship Owners. Bituminous Coal, Coke, Firebricks.

Matsu & Co., 3, Queen's Road Central. Shipping Agents—Phone Cen. 1543.

Pang Shiu Ming & Co., (General Merchants, Colliery & Steamship Owners) 4A, Des Voeux Road Central. Phone C. 228.

## Dentist

Harry Fong, Dentist, 1st floor, No. 74, Queen's Road Central. Tel. Central No. 1260.

## Engineers &amp; Shipbuilders

W. S. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Engineer and Shipbuilder, Kowloon Bay. New Work and Repairs. Call Flag "L."

## Fertilizer

Natural Agricultural Fertilizer Co., 24 Jersey St. Tel. 2280. Sole agents: Hui Guan-King of Fertilizers.

## Glass Merchants

A. Ling & Co., Glass Merchants, Furniture, Mirror and Canton Marble, Manufacturer, Electro-plated, Glass and Crookery Wares and Photo Supplies. 18, Queen's Road Central. Tel. Central No. 1218.

## Hotels

Palace Hotel, Kowloon—Corner of Haiphong and Hankow Roads. Few minutes from ferry.

## Importers &amp; Exporters

Kwong Sun & Co., 53, Queen's Road Central. Ko Chi Chung (Manager). Kwong Kip Him (Asst.). Tel. Cen. 3189.

## Land &amp; Estate Agents

Pun Yick Cho, Land & Estate agents. Tel. Central #11-1297. 35, Queen's Road Central.

## Merchants

Asia Commercial & Development Co., China Bank buildings (3rd floor) Tel. 3608.

## Modistes

Madame Flint, 31, Queen's Road Cen. Tel. Cen. 589. (latest Parisian models).

## Optician

The Hongkong Optical Co. Phone 2287. 89, Queen's Road Central.

## Photographers

Mac Cheung, P. Photographer, 25, Ho House Street. Boscawen Arcade Branch. Developing & Printing undertaken.

## MEE KWONG,

Printing, Developing etc. undertaken Kowloon.

## Po Kwong Photo Studio

129, Wellington Street. Photo Supplies and Developing. Art picture dealer.

## Printers

"The China Mail" General Printers, Publishers and Bookbinders. 5, Wyndham Street. Tel. C. 22.

## Rubber &amp; Wood

Tankhates & Co., 29 Connaught Rd. W. Manufacturers of Rubber Soles and Singapore Wood. Tel. Central 4478.

## Ship Chandlers

E. Bing & Co., 45 Wing Wo Street. Tel. Central 1118. Metal Merchants & Ship Chandlers. Managing Director—Mr. H. S. Chin.

## Sun Cheong, Comprode.

General Provision Store. Naval and Military Contractor. No. 66, Freya East, Wanchai. Telephone No. 3761.

## Shoemakers

Jam Kee, Dealer in Sewing Machines and Accessories, Boot & Shoe Maker. 7 Pottinger Street.

## WONG SIU WOOD

BOOTS, SHOES AND SLIPPERS FOR LADIES GENTS AND CHILDREN. PRICES MODERATE. TEL. 1424. No. 21, POTTINGER ST.

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Hongkong Tailoring Co., Ladies and Gents Tailors, 10, D'Aguiar Street. New Materials of all descriptions. Tel. Central 2889.

## LEE YEE.

## HAIR DRESSING SALOON

Electric Facial Massage With Massage Cream Performed By Experienced Hands.

Novels, Magazines, Ladies' Fashion Books, And Toilet Requisites For Sale.

Winter Butterick. The Annuals for Gifts. & etc.

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SHORT SEASON ONLY Commencing

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EDGAR WARWICK

has the Honour to Present the World-renowned London Star, THE INIMITABLE



## WISH WYNNE

In the Character Studies that have made her famous.

BERNARD KITCHEN AND A PIANO

ZOE In Characteristic Dances.

ALFRED GUNNINGHAM The Eminent Baritone from the London Opera House, Alhambra, etc.

GWEN ADELER A Dainty Singer of Dainty Songs

HAROLD WALDEN The Popular Humorous Entertainer from the Palladium, Queen's Hall, etc.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

Boxing Day (9 to 5.30) H.K. Hotel Saturday (9 to 1) H.K. Hotel Saturday (2 to 5.30) H.K. Hotel The London Coliseum at Your Door.

## HONGKONG TIDE.

The tide-table given below has been compiled at the National Almanac Office in London from the result of the analysis of observations taken by means of an automatic tide-recording machine in the Water Police Basin at Tsim Sha Tsui during the years 1908-9.

The zero of the table corresponds with the zero of the sounding in the Admiralty Chart which has been found to be 4 feet 2 inches below mean sea-level. To obtain the depth of water on the tide gauge at the Victoria Naval Yard add 8 feet 4 inches, and on the gauge at Lamont Dock, Aberdeen, add 10 feet 4 inches to the height given in the table.

December 22 to 28, 1924.

		High Water	Low Water	
Day	Hour	Standard Time	Height	Height
Mon.	22	6.45	2.2	2.3
Tue.	23	6.37	2.2	2.3
Wed.	24	6.29	2.2	2.3
Thur.	25	6.21	2.2	2.3
Fri.	26	6.13	2.2	2.3
Sat.	27	6.05	2.2	2.3
Sun.	28	5.57	2.2	2.3

Gave Drinks Away. Mr. John Hill of Baltimore, was recently acquitted, states Reuter, on a charge of violating the Prohibition Laws. Like the hero in G. K. Chesterton's "Flying Inn," he perceived that the Prohibition laws strictly forbade the selling of liquor containing more than one-half of one per cent. of alcohol. They said nothing about giving it away. Consequently, he manufactured large quantities of home-made wine and distributed it free to his neighbours. The jury took 17 hours to arrive at its verdict.

## THE BLUE FUNNEL LINE

REGULAR AND FAST FREIGHT AND PASSENGER SERVICES.

## LONDON SERVICE.

(Direct)

"TELEPHOS" 29th Dec. Marseilles, London, R'dam, Hamburg & Hall  
"AUTOMEDON" 31st Dec. Amsterdam, London & Hamburg  
"ELPHON" 12th Jan. London, Rotterdam & Hamburg  
"SARPHON" 27th Jan. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow  
\*Via Oran.

## LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

(Direct or via Continental Ports)

"CYCLOPS" 31st Dec. Marseilles, Havre, Tientsin & Glasgow  
"TITAN" 20th Jan. Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow  
"BELLEROPHON" 1st Feb. Marseilles, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow  
"PROTEUS" 19th Feb. Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow  
\*Via Port Sudan.

## PACIFIC SERVICE.

Via Kobe and Yokohama

"PHILOCTEES" 19th Jan. Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver  
"TALTYBIUS" 10th Feb. Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver

## NEW YORK SERVICE.

Via Suez or Panama

"HYSON" 28th Dec. Boston, New York & Baltimore via Suez  
"IXION" 8th Jan. Boston, New York & Baltimore via Suez  
"ATREUS" 28th Jan. Boston, New York & Baltimore via Suez

## PASSENGER SERVICE.

"SARPHON" 27th Dec. for Shanghai  
"TELEPHOS" 29th Dec. for Singapore, Marseilles and London  
"SARPHON" 27th Jan. for Singapore, Marseilles and London  
"PATROCLOS" 10th Mar. for Singapore, Marseilles and London  
"ATREUS" 7th Apr. for Singapore, Marseilles and London  
Also cargo steamers with limited passenger accommodation at specially reduced fares.  
For Freight and Passage Rates and all information Apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

## POST OFFICE NOTICES.

The Public are reminded that New Year Cards posted in closed covers with notched corners are subjected to letter rates of postage.

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

On Friday, 26th; and Saturday, 27th the G.P.O. and Branch Post Offices will be open as follows:—  
The G.P.O.—8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on 26th and 8 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. on the 27th.  
Kowloon and Shum Shui Po Branches.—8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on each day.  
Wantsai, Salyingpun & Yau-mai Branches.—8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. on each day.  
Sheungwan Branch.—8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on each day.

There will be one collection of letters from the pillar boxes and one delivery of ordinary correspondence each day as on Sundays and also one delivery of registered correspondence from the G.P.O. each day at 9 a.m.

There will be one delivery from the Branch Post Offices on each day at noon.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the holidays.

## INWARD MAILS.

From	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26.	To
EUROPE via Suez (Letters and Papers London 27th Nov. and parcels 28th Nov.)	Kalyan	
Straits	Sundays	
Manila	Monday, December 29.	
Straits	Wednesday, December 31.	
U.S.A. Canada, Japan and Shanghai	Pres. Madison	
U.S.A. Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai	Pres. Harrison	

## OUTWARD MAILS.

To	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26.	Time
Swatow and Bangkok	Chiangmai	10 a.m.
Shanghai	Chiangmai	10 a.m.
Amoy and Manila	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.
Sundays	Sundays	10 a.m.

\*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

## TO-DAY &amp; TO-MORROW ONLY

5.15 and 9.15 p.m.

CHESTER BENNETT'S MONUMENTAL EPIC OF MOTHER LOVE

## "THE LULLABY"

STARRING

JANE NOVAK

A shot rang out—then shrieking silence. Her world of golden mother dreams crashing down about her—her universe of hope spread in ghastly ruins at her feet. Never before has such a magnificent tribute to the glory of motherhood graced the screen—all the poignant emotions of "Hunoresque"—all the crashing situation of "Madame X"—with the screen's most appealing Star in the greatest emotional role of the year.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Don't Fail To See It Commencing Sunday Next JACK & NEDDA NOVA

## "THE MASK"

Seven Reels of Thrills, Mystery and Romance

PORTUGUESE AVIATORS' FLIGHT TO MACAO

WORLD THEATRE

## United Artists

Present

Companion Picture

TO ROBIN HOOD

"RICHARD THE LION HEARTED"

with

WALLACE BEERY

TO-DAY

at 2.15, 5.15, 7.15 and 9.15 p.m.

USUAL PRICES.

THE CORONET

## BIG PROGRAMME FOR THE STAR

TO-DAY and TO-MORROW

at 5.15 (Note the time) and 9.15

MISS IVY NICHOLLS

Late Star of "The Littlejohns"

in

THE LATEST POPULAR SONGS.

CHAS. HUTCHISON

in

Hutch Stirs 'em Up

Six reels of breathless excitement.

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

in

His Screaming Burlesque

THE ADVENTURER.

USUAL PRICES

## QUEEN'S THEATRE

To-day to Monday At All Shows

Sunday at 5.15; 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORP.

Presents

Leatrice Joy—Conrad Nagel

Theodore Roberts—Edith Roberts

in

## "SATURDAY NIGHT"

An Intimate Picture of Love That Rushed Too Soon Into Marriage.

In 9 parts

A OCEIL B. LE MILLE SUPER-PRODUCTION

AT INCREASED PRICES.

## KOWLOONITES

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A Large Selection of Xmas Toys,

Sweets, Nuts Etc.

Inspection Cordially Invited

EASTERN STORE

EAST VIEW BUILDING

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## GENUINE CHINESE ANTIQUES.

NOW BEING OFFERED FOR SALE AT OUR NEW PREMISES SITUATE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, CHINA BUILDINGS.

These include ancient Chinese pictures, Chinese marble statues from the Siu Hing Prefecture, copper articles from Peking, etc.

INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED.

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A Pen that never fails to give perfect writing service.

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